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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ELI LILLY AND COMPANY [US/US]; Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, IN 46285 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BUNEL, Emilio, Enrique [CL/US]; 3277 Sunset Hills Boulevard, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 (US). GAJEWSKI, Robert, Peter [US/US]; 1501 Friendship Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46217 (US). JONES, Charles, David [US/US]; 223 East Brunswick Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46227 (US). LU, Jianliang [CN/US]; 11921 Castlestone Drive, Fishers, IN 46038 (US). NAGPAL, Sunil [US/US]; 5258 Comanche Trail, Carmel, IN 46033 (US). MA, Tianwei [CN/US]; 5676 Sapphire Drive, Carmel. IN 46033 (US). YEE, Ying, Kwong [US/US]; 5127 Briarstone Trace, Carmel, IN 46033 (US).
- (74) Agents: BOUDREAUX, William, R. et al.; ELI LILLY AND COMPANY, P. O. Box 6288, Indianapolis, IN 46206-6288 (US).
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(54) Title: VITAMIN D RECEPTOR MODULATORS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel, non-secosteroidal, hydroxyl substituted, carbon- linked diaryl compounds with vitamin D receptor (VDR) modulating activity that are less hypercalcemic than 1?,25 dihydroxy vitamin D3. These compounds are useful for treating bone disease and psoriasis.



-1-

VITAMIN D RECEPTOR MODULATORS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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Vitamin D₃ Receptor (VDR) is a ligand dependent transcription factor that belongs to the superfamily of nuclear hormone receptors. The VDR protein is 427 amino acids, with a molecular weight of ~50 kDa. The VDR ligand, 1α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3 (the hormonally active form of Vitamin D) has its action mediated by its interaction with the nuclear receptor known as Vitamin D receptor ("VDR"). The VDR ligand, 1α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3 (1α ,25(OH)₂D₃) acts upon a wide variety of tissues and cells both related to and unrelated to calcium and phosphate homeostasis.

The activity $1\alpha,25$ -dihydroxyvitamin D3 in various systems suggests wide clinical applications. However, use of conventional VDR ligands is hampered by their associated toxicity, namely hypercalcemia (elevated serum calcium). Currently, $1\alpha,25$ (OH) $_2$ D $_3$, marketed as Rocaltrol® pharmaceutical agent (product of Hoffmann-La Roche), is administered to kidney failure patients undergoing chronic kidney dialysis to treat hypocalcemia and the resultant metabolic bone disease. Other therapeutic agents, such as Calcipotriol® (synthetic analog of $1\alpha,25$ (OH) $_2$ D $_3$) show increased separation of binding affinity on VDR from hypercalcemic activity.

Chemical modifications of $1\alpha,25(OH)_2D_3$ have yielded analogs with attenuated calcium mobilization effects (R. Bouillon et. al., Endocrine Rev. 1995, 16, 200-257). One such analog, Dovonex ® pharmaceutical agent (product of Bristol-Meyers Squibb Co.), is currently used in Europe and the United States as a topical treatment for mild to moderate psoriasis (K. Kragballe et. al., Br. J. Dermatol. 1988, 119, 223-230).

Other Vitamin D₃ mimics have been described in the publication, <u>Vitamin D</u>

<u>Analogs: Mechanism of Action of Therapeutic Applications</u>, by Nagpal, S.; Lu, J.;

Boehm, M. F., Curr. Med. Chem. 2001, 8, 1661-1679.

Although some degree of separation between the beneficial action and calcium raising (calcemic) effects has been achieved with these VDR ligands, to date the separation has been insufficient to allow for oral administration to treat conditions such as osteoporosis, cancers, leukemias, and severe psoriasis.

-2-

One example of a major class of disorder that could benefit from VDR mediated biological efficacy in the absence of hypercalcemia is osteoporosis. Osteoporosis is a systemic disorder characterized by decreased bone mass and microarchitectural deterioration of bone tissue leading to bone fragility and increased susceptibility to fractures of the hip, spine, and wrist (World Health Organization WHO 1994). Osteoporosis affects an estimated 75 million people in the United States, Europe, and Japan.

Within the past few years, several antiresorptive therapies have been introduced. These include bisphosphonates, hormone replacement therapy (HRT), a selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM), and calcitonins. These treatments reduce bone resorption, bone formation, and increase bone density. However, none of these treatments increase true bone volume nor can they restore lost bone architecture.

Another major disorder that could benefits from VDR mediated biological activity is psoriasis. Psoriasis is one of the most common dermatologic diseases and is a chronic inflammatory skin condition characterized by erythematous, sharply demarcated papules and rounded plaques, covered by silvery micaceous scale.

Synthetic VDR ligands with reduced calcemic potential have been synthesized. For example, a class of bis-phenyl compounds stated to mimic 1α, 25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ is described in US Patent No. 6,218,430 and the article; "Novel nonsecosteroidal vitamin D mimics exert VDR-modulating activities with less calcium mobilization than 1α, 25-Dihydroxyvitamin D₃" by Marcus F. Boehm, et. al., Chemistry & Biology 1999, Vol 6, No. 5, pgs. 265-275.

Synthetic VDR ligands having an aryl-thiophene nucleus are described in United States provisional patent application SN 60/384151, filed 29 May 2002.

There remains a need for improved treatments using alternative or improved pharmaceutical agents that mimic 10, 25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃ to stimulate bone formation, restore bone quality, and treat other diseases without the attendant disadvantage of hypercalcemia.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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Novel compounds having a nucleus of formula "(A)" have been found effective as

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Vitamin D Receptor (VDR) modulators:

The compounds of the invention with VDR modulating activities are represented by formula (I)

wherein the variables R, R', R_{PH}, R1, R2, L₁, L₂, L₃, R_{BOH}, and R_C are as hereinafter defined. It is a discovery of this invention that compounds described herein display the desirable cell differentiation and antiproliferative effects of 1,25(OH)₂D₃ with reduced calcium mobilization (calcemic) effects if substituent R_{BOH} bears a hydroxyl group and substituent R_C possesses a carbon atom linked group directly bonded (i.e., with no intervening non-carbon atom) to the aryl nucleus.

In another aspect, the present invention is directed towards pharmaceutical compositions containing pharmaceutically effective amounts of compounds of formulae (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, either singly or in combination, together with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or auxiliary agents.

Another aspect of the invention is a pharmaceutical formulation for treatment or prevention of osteoporosis containing pharmaceutically effective amounts of the vitamin D receptor modulator compound of formula (I) alone or together with pharmaceutically effective amounts of co-agents conventionally used for the treatment of osteoporosis.

Another aspect of the invention is a pharmaceutical formulation for treatment or prevention of psoriasis containing pharmaceutically effective amounts of the vitamin D receptor modulator compound of formula (I) alone or together with pharmaceutically effective amounts of co-agents conventionally used for the treatment of psoriasis.

Another aspect of the invention is a pharmaceutical formulation for treatment or prevention of prostate cancer containing pharmaceutically effective amounts of the

PCT/US2004/037182 WO 2005/051893

-4-

vitamin D receptor modulator compound of formula (I) alone or together with pharmaceutically effective amounts of co-agents conventionally used for the treatment of prostate cancer.

Another aspect of the invention is to use the compounds of the invention to treat disease states responsive to Vitamin D receptor ligands.

Another aspect of the invention is the prevention and treatment of acne, actinic keratosis, alopecia, Alzheimer's disease, autoimmune induced diabetes, bone fracture healing, breast cancer, Crohn's disease, prostate cancer, benign prostatic hyperplasia, bladder cancer, colon cancer, Type I diabetes, host-graft rejection, hypercalcemia, Type II diabetes, leukemia, multiple sclerosis, insufficient sebum secretion, osteomalacia, osteoporosis, insufficient dermal firmness, insufficient dermal hydration, myelodysplastic syndrome, psoriatic arthritis, psoriasis, renal osteodystrophy, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, seborrheic dermatitis, skin cancer, systemic lupus erythematosis, skin cell protection from Mustard vesicants, ulcerative colitis, and wrinkles; by administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Definitions:

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The term, "abscess" refers to adverse complications often associated with surgery, trama, or diseases that predispose the host to abscess formation from encapsulated bacteria lymphocytes, macrophages, and etc.

The term, "adhesion" refers to the adverse and abnormal union of surfaces normally separate by the formation of new fibrous tissue resulting from an inflammatory process.

The term, "compound of the invention" refers to a compound represented by any of (i) formulae I, II, III and its preferred embodiments, (ii) the product of any example set out herein, or (iii) a compound identified in the species coded AA-1 to

AA-33, BB-1 to BB-33, CC-1 to CC-44, or a salt or prodrug derivative of (i), (ii), or (iii).

The term, "Active Ingredient" means a compound of the invention.

The term, "Mustard" is inclusive of both sulfur mustards and nitrogen mustards, either alone or in any combnation. Examplary of such compounds are the vesicants;

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bis(2-chloroethyl) sulfide (Chemical Agent Symbol HD), Cl(CH₂)₂S(CH₂)₂Cl 1,2-bis(2-chloroethylthio)ethane (Chemical Agent Symbol Q), Cl(CH₂)₂S(CH₂)₂S(CH₂)₂Cl; bis(2-chloroethylthioethyl) ether, Cl(CH₂)₂S(CH₂)O(CH₂)₂S(CH₂)₂Cl (Chemical Agent Symbol T); tris(2-chloroethyl) amine (Chemical Agent Symbol HN3) N(CH₂CH₂Cl)₃; N-methyl-2,2'-dichlorodiethylamine (Chemical Agent Symbol NH2); and 2,2'-dichlorotriethylamine, CH₃CH₂N(CH₂CH₂Cl)₂ (Chemical Agent Symbol NH1).

The term, "(Acidic Group)" means an organic group that acts as a proton donor capable of hydrogen bonding. Illustrative of an (Acidic Group) is a group selected from the following:

OH , HO

OH SN OH

$$N-N$$
 $N-N$
 $N-N$

or

The term, "carbon atom linked group" is used to identify the chemical substituent R_C in the Formula I definition of compounds of the invention. Its defining characteristic is a carbon atom as the first atom and point of attachment to the aryl ring to which it is attached. For example in the structural formula (C):

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$$R_{BOH}$$
 R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7 R_8

the arrow identifies the carbon atom linked directly to the aryl nucleus of formula (I). All compounds of the invention contain a carbon atom linked group as the R_C substituent.

The term "alkenyl" refers to aliphatic groups wherein the point of attachment is a carbon-carbon double bond, for example vinyl, 1-propenyl, and 1-cyclohexenyl. Alkenyl groups may be straight-chain, branched-chain, cyclic, or combinations thereof, and may be optionally substituted. Suitable alkenyl groups have from 2 to about 20 carbon atoms.

The term "C₁-C₅ alkyl" refers to saturated aliphatic groups including straight-chain, branched-chain, and cyclic groups and any combinations thereof. Examples of C₁-C₅ alkyl groups are methyl; ethyl; n-propyl; 1-methylethyl; n-butyl; 1-methylpropyl; 2-methylpropyl; n-amyl; 1,1-dimethylpropyl; 1,2-dimethylpropyl; and 2,2-dimethylpropyl.

The term "cycloalkyl" includes organic radicals such as cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl.

The term, "cycloalkenyl" includes organic radicals such as cyclopropenyl, cyclobutenyl, cyclopentenyl and cyclohexenyl.

The term, "C₁-C₅ fluoroalkyl" is an alkyl group containing fluorine and includes organic radicals such as -CF₃, -CH₂C, -CH₂CF, -CF₂CF₃, -CH₂CF₃, -CH₂CH₂CH₂F, with -CF₃ being preferred.

The term, "-1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione-5-methylidene", refers to the radical represented by the structural formula:

The term, "-CH₂-C(O)-N-pyrrolidine" refers to the radical represented by the structural formula:

The term, "-CH₂-N-pyrrolidin-2-one" refers to the radical represented by the structural formula:

The term, "-CH₂-(1-methylpyrrolidin-2-one-3-yl)" refers to the organic radical represented by the structural formula:

The term, "1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-one-5-yl" refers to the organic radical represented by the structural formula:

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The term, "1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-thione-5-yl" refers to the organic radical represented by the structural formula:

WO 2005/051893

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The terml, "imidazolidine-2,4-dione-5-yl" refers to the organic radical represented by the structural formula:

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The term, "isoxazol-3-ol-5-yl" refers to the organic radical represented by the structural formula:

The dotted line symbol crossing a solid line representing a bond

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The univalent symbol "-O" in any structural formula is a hydroxyl group (-OH). means that the bond so marked is the bond of attachement, for example, the group;

is attached to a phenyl ring of the parent diaryl nucleus to provide a compound of the invention as shown;

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The term, "mammal" includes humans.

The term "halo" refer to fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine.

5 The term, "terminal hydroxyalkyl" is a group selected from

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl,

3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl,

1-hydroxycycloalkenyl; and

1-hydroxycycloalkyl.

The term, "3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

The term, "3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula (both cis and trans isomers):

The term, "3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

5 The term, "3-ethyl-3, hydroxypentyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

The term, "3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula (both cis and trans isomers):

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The term, "3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

The term, "3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl" refers to the radical having the structural

15 formula:

The term, "3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula (both cis and trans isomers):

The term, "3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

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The term, "3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

The term, "3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula (both cis and trans isomers):

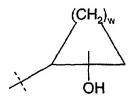
The term, "3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

The term, "1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl" refers to the radical having the structural formula:

-13-

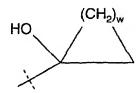
The term, "1-hydroxycycloalkenyl" refers to a radical selected from 1-hydroxycyclopentenyl, 1-hydroxycyclohexenyl, 1-hydroxycyclohexenyl, or 1-hydroxycyclooctenyl.

The term "hydroxycycloalkyl" refers to a radical having the general structural formula:



where w is an integer from 1 to 6 and the hydroxyl radical is substituted on any ring carbon atom.

The term "1-hydroxycycloalkyl" refers to a radical having the general structural formula:



Examples of 1-hydroxycycloalkyl radicals are

1-hydroxycyclopropyl, 1-hydroxycyclobutyl, 1-hydroxycyclopentyl,

1-hydroxycyclohexyl, 1-hydroxycycloheptyl, and 1-hydroxycyclooctyl.

The abbreviation, "Me" means methyl.

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The abbreviation, "Et" means ethyl.

The abbreviation, "iPr" means 1-methylethyl.

The abbreviation, "nPr" means n-propyl.

The abbreviation, "3Me3OH-Pentyl" means 3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl.

The abbreviation, "3Me3OH-Pentenyl" means 3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl

The abbreviation, "3Me3OH-Pentynyl" means 3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl

The abbreviation, "3Et3OH-Pentyl" means 3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl.

The abbreviation, "3Et3OH-Pentenyl" means 3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl

The abbreviation, "3Et3OH-Pentynyl" means 3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl

The abbreviation, "3Pr3OH-Pentyl" means 3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl.

The abbreviation, "3Pr3OH-Pentenyl" means 3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl.

The abbreviation, "3Pr3OH-Pentynyl" means 3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl. The abbreviation, "3Et3OH4Me-Pentyl" means 3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl. The abbreviation, "3Et3OH4Me-Pentenyl" means 3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,

The abbreviation, "3Et3OH4Me-Pentynyl" means 3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl.

The abbreviation, "10H2Me1MeEt-Propyl" means 1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl.

10 Compounds of the Invention:

The compounds of the invention with vitamin receptor modulating (VDRM) activities are represented by formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug derivative thereof:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

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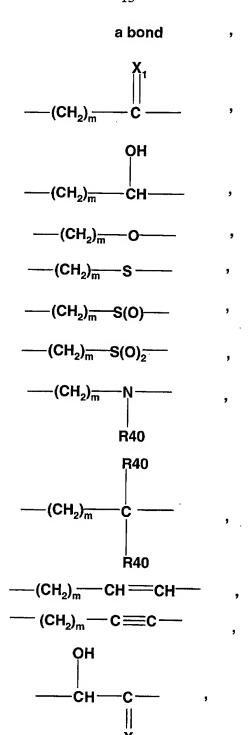
wherein;

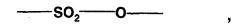
R and R' are independently C_1 - C_5 alkyl, C_1 - C_5 fluoroalkyl, or together R and R' form a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic ring having from 3 to 8 carbon atoms;

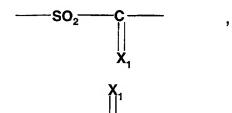
R_{PH} is hydrogen or methyl;

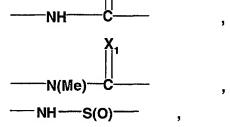
R1 and R2 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ fluoroalkyl, -O-C₁-C₅ alkyl, -S-C₁-C₅ alkyl, -O-C₁-C₅ fluoroalkyl, -CN, -NO₂, acetyl, -S-C₁-C₅ fluoroalkyl, C₂-C₅ alkenyl, C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl, and C₃-C₅ cycloalkenyl;

 L_1 and L_2 and L_3 are independently divalent linking groups independently selected from the group consisting of









$$--$$
CH₂ $--$ S(O) $--$, and

___O___S(O)___

where m is 0, 1, or 2; X_1 is oxygen or sulfur, and each R40 is independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_5 alkyl, or C_1 - C_5 fluoroalkyl;

R_{BOH} is

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3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl,

3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

-17-.

		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
		1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl
		1-hydroxycycyclopentenyl,
5		1-hydroxycyclohexenyl,
		1-hydroxycycloheptenyl,
		1-hydroxycyclooctenyl,
		1-hydroxycyclopropyl,
		1-hydroxycyclobutyl,
10		1-hydroxycyclopentyl,
		1-hydroxycyclohexyl,
		1-hydroxycycloheptyl, or
		1-hydroxycyclooctyl;
	provided that when	
15	R _{BOH} is	
i		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
20		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl,
25		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl, or
		1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl;
	then L ₁ and L ₂ combine	ne as a bond; and

-18-

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	C	
		-CO ₂ H,
		-CO ₂ Me,
		-CO ₂ Et,
5		-C(O)CH ₂ S(O)Me,
		-C(O)CH ₂ S(O)Et,
		$-C(O)CH_2S(O)_2Me$,
		$-C(O)CH_2S(O)_2Et$,
		-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
10		-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Et,
		-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
		-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
		-C(O)CHMeCH ₂ CO ₂ H
		-C(O)C(O)OH,
15		$-C(O)C(O)NH_2,$
•		-C(O)C(O)NHMe,
		$-C(O)C(O)NMe_2$
		$-C(O)NH_2$, $C(O)NMe_2$,
		-C(O)NHS(O)Me,
20		-C(O)NHSO ₂ Me,
	•	-C(O)-NH-5-tetrazolyl,
		-C(O)NMe-5-tetrazolyl,
		-C(O)NHS(O)Me,
		-C(O)NHS(O)Et,
25		-C(O)NHSO ₂ Me,
		-C(O)NHSO ₂ Et,

	-C(O)NHS(O)iPr,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ iPr,
	-C(O)NHS(O)nPr,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ nPr,
5	-C(O)NHCH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ S(O)Et,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ SO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ SO ₂ Et,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
10	-C(O)NHCH2CH2S(O)Et,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)NHCH2CH2SO2Et,
	-C(O)NH ₂ ,
•	-C(O)NMe ₂ ,
15	-C(O)NH-CH ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
20 '	-C(O)NH-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NH-C(Me)_2-C(O)OH$,
	$-C(O)NH-C(Me)_2-C(O)OH$,
	-C(O)NH-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NH-C(Me)(CF_3)-C(O)OH$,
25	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(cyclopropyl-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
30	-C(O)NMe-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,

	-C(O)NMe-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
·	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
5	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH
•	-CH ₂ -CO ₂ H,
	-CH ₂ -5-tetrazolyl,
	-CH ₂ CO ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CO ₂ Et,
10	-CH ₂ NHS(O)Me,
	-CH2NHS(O)Et,
	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ NHS(O)iPr,
15	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ iPr,
	-CH ₂ NHS(O)nPr,
	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ nPr,
	-CH ₂ NHCH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₂ CH ₃ ,
	-CH ₂ NH(CH ₂ CO ₂ H),
20	-CH ₂ N($C(O)$ Me)(CH ₂ CO ₂ H),
	-CH ₂ -N-pyrrolidin-2-one,
	-CH ₂ -(1-methylpyrrolidin-2-one-3-yl),
	-CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-CH ₂ S(O)Et,
25	$-CH_2S(O)_2Me$,
	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ S(O)iPr,
	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ iPr,
	-CH ₂ S(O)nPr,
30	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ nPr,
	-CH ₂ CO ₂ H, CH ₂ C(O)NH ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ C(O)NMe ₂ ,

-21-

	-CH ₂ C(O)NHMe,
	-CH ₂ C(O)-N-pyrrolidine
	$-CH_2S(O)_2Me$,
	-CH ₂ S(O)Me,
5	-CH(OH) CO ₂ H,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NH $_2$,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NHMe,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NEt ₂ ,
10	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ H,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NH ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NHMe,
15	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ -5-tetrazolyl,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
20	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) Et,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)iPr,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ iPr,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)nPr,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ nPr,
25	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)NH ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)NHMe,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)NMe ₂ ,
·	$-CH_2CH_2S(O)_2NH_2$,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ NHMe,
30	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ NMe ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-CH2CH2CH2S(O)Et,

-22-

 $-CH_2CH_2CH_2S(O)_2Me,\\$

 $\hbox{-CH}_2\hbox{CH}_2\hbox{CH}_2\hbox{S}(O)_2\hbox{Et},$

-CH(Me)CH₂C(O)OH,

- $C(Me)_2CH_2C(O)OH$,

5

-SO₃H,

-5-tetrazolyl,

10

HO

-1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-one-5-yl,

-imidazolidine-2,4-dione-5-yl,

-1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione-5-methylidene,

-isoxazol-3-ol-yl, or

5

-1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-thione-5-yl.

The combination of L_1 and L_2 as a bond (divalent linking group) is understood to mean

that group R_{BOH}, is attached directly to the phenyl nucleus, for example, as in the following structural formula:

5 where R_{BOH} is 3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl.

Preferred compounds of the invention with VDR modulating activities are represented by formula (II) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an ester prodrug derivative thereof:

$$R_{ROH} = R_{C}$$

10 wherein;

R and R' are independently methyl or ethyl;

R1 and R2 are independently hydrogen, halo, -CF₃, methyl, ethyl, or cyclopropyl; L_1 and L_2 are independently divalent linking groups independently selected from

PCT/US2004/037182 WO 2005/051893

$$-25-$$

$$-(CH2)m-(CH2)m-,$$

$$-(CH2)m-CH=CH-,$$

$$-(CH2)m-C=C-,$$
or
$$-(CH2-S(O)-,$$

5 where m is 0 or 1;

RBOH is selected from

1-hydroxycycyclopentenyl,

1-hydroxycyclohexenyl,

1-hydroxycyclopentyl, or

1-hydroxycyclohexyl, and

Z_C is a group selected from

-CO₂H,

-CO₂Me,

-CO2Et,

15 -C(O)NH₂,

-C(O)NMe2,

-C(O)NH-CH₂-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-CH(F)-C(O)OH,

20 -C(O)NH-CH(CF₃)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-C(Me)2-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-C(Me)₂-C(O)OH,

25 -C(O)NH-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-C(Me)(CF₃)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-C(Me)(cyclopropyl-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NMe-CH₂-C(O)OH,

30 -C(O)NMe-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NMe-CH(F)-C(O)OH,

10

PCT/US2004/037182

-26-

	-C(O)NMe-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
5	-C(O)NMe-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(CF_3)-C(O)OH$,
•	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-5-tetrazolyl,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH, or
10	-C(O)-NH-5-tetrazolyl.

Preferred compounds of the invention with VDR modulating activities are represented by formula (III) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an ester prodrug derivative thereof:

$$R_{BOH}$$
 R_{1}
 R_{2}
 R_{1}
 R_{2}
 R_{1}
 R_{2}
 R_{3}

15

wherein;

R and R' are independently methyl or ethyl;

R₁ and R₂ are independently hydrogen, halo, -CF₃, methyl, ethyl, or cyclopropyl;

R_{BOH} is selected from

20	3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
	3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
	3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
	3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
	3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
25	3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
	3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
	3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
	3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
	3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl,

-27-

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,

	3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl, or
	1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl; and
	Z _C is a group selected from
5	-CO ₂ H,
	-CO ₂ Me,
	-CO ₂ Et,
	-C(O)NH ₂ ,
	-C(O)NMe ₂ ,
10	-C(O)NH-CH ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
15	-C(O)NH-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
20	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(cyclopropyl-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NMe-CH_2-C(O)OH$,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
25	-C(O)NMe-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
30	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-5-tetrazolyl,

-28-

-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH, or -C(O)-NH-5-tetrazolyl.

Particularly preferred salts of the compounds Formuae I and II and III are sodium and potassium.

Particularly preferred ester prodrugs of the compounds of Formulae I and III are the methyl ester, ethyl ester, N,N-diethylglycolamido ester, and the morpholinylethyl ester.

Particularly preferred are compounds or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof selected from (AA-1) to (AA-33) and mixtures thererof, as follows:

AA-1)

AA-2)

15

AA-3)

AA-4)

AA-5)

AA-6)

5

AA-7)

AA-8)

AA-9)

AA-10)

5

AA-11)

AA-12)

AA-13)

AA-14)

5

AA-15)

-32-

AA-16)

AA-17)

AA-18)

5

AA-19)

AA-20)

AA-21)

AA-22)

5

AA-23)

AA-24)

AA-25)

AA-26)

5

AA-27)

-35-

AA-28)

5 AA-29)

AA-30)

AA-31)

WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2004/037182

AA-32)

AA-33)

5

Additional particularly preferred are compounds or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof selected from (BB-1) to (BB-33) and mixtures thereof, as follows:

10 BB-1)

BB-2)

BB-3)

BB-4)

5

BB-5)

WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2004/037182

BB-6)

BB-7)

BB-8)

5

BB-9)

BB-10)

BB-11)

BB-12)

5

BB-13)

BB-14)

BB-15)

BB-16)

5

BB-17)

BB-18)

BB-19)

BB-20)

5

BB-21)

WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2004/037182

BB-22)

BB-23)

BB-24)

5

BB-25)

WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2004/037182

BB-26)

BB-27)

BB-28)

5

BB-29)

BB-30)

BB-31)

BB-32)

5

BB-33)

WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2004/037182

-45-

Additional particularly preferred are compounds or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof selected from (CC-1) to (CC-44) and mixtures thererof, as follows:

CC-1)

5

CC-2)

10 CC-3)

WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2004/037182

CC-4)

CC-5)

CC-6)

5

CC-7)

CC-8)

CC-9)

CC-10)

5

CC-11)

-48-

CC-12)

CC-13)

CC-14)

5

CC-15)

-49-

CC-16)

5

CC-17)

CC-18)

10

CC-19)

CC-20)

CC-21)

CC-22)

5

CC-23)

CC-24)

CC-25)

CC-26)

5

CC-27)

CC-28)

CC-29)

5

CC-30)

CC-31)

CC-32)

CC-33)

5

CC-35)

CC-34)

CC-36)

CC-37)

CC-38)

CC-39)

CC-40)

CC-41)

CC-42)

5

CC-43)

CC-44)

$$HO \longrightarrow O$$

5

Particularly preferred compounds of the invention are

10

-57-

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or prodrug derivatives thereof.

Scheme 1: Synthesis of Unsymmetrical Central Link Diphenyl Scaffold

5

$$R2$$
 $R3$ CO_2Me

Scheme 2: Synthesis of Trans-Pentenol Phenyl Alkyl Phenyl Amide-Acids

BnO
$$R_{2}$$
 R3

(SO₂CF₃ DMF, 80 °C

2) CsF, CH₃CN/water, RT

R, R1 = H. Me, Cl R2, R3 = Me, Et, Pr

-59-

Scheme 3: Synthesis of Pentynol Phenyl Alkyl Phenyl Acids

5

PCT/US2004/037182

-60-

Scheme 4: Synthesis of Cis-Pentenol Phenyl Alkyl Phenyl Amide-Acids

5

Preparation of unsymmetrical central link diphenyl scaffold (Scheme 1).

A 3-Substituted-4-hydroxybenzoic acid (1a) is coupled with EDCI/N-methy-N-methoxyamine/DMAP and alkylated with benzyl bromide to give amide 2. Amide 2 is sequentially reacted with R2MgBr and R3MgBr Grignard reagents to afford tertiary alcohol 3. Alcohol 3 is reacted with 2-substituted phenol 4 and BF3-OEt2 to produce diphenylalkane 5. Diphenylalkane 5 is reacted with triflic anhydride/pyridine to give the triflate 6, which is methoxycarbonylated with Pd(OAc)2, (DPPF or DPPB), carbon monoxide, MeOH, and Et3N to give ester 7.

15

20

10

Synthesis of trans-Pentenol Phenyl Alkyl Phenyl Acids (Scheme 2).

Triflate 6 is sequentially reacted with 1) TMS-acetylene, PdCl2(PPh3)2, Et3N, and DMF and 2) CsF and water to afford acetylene 8. Acetylene 8 is treated with Zn(OTf)2/t-butyl aldehyde/chiral auxiliary (with or without) to give alcohol 10. Alternatively, acetylene 8 is reacted with LiHMDS/ketone 9 to give alcohol 10. Alcohol 10 is reduced with LAH or

acid 17.

25

5

DiBAH to afford trans-pentenol 11. Trans-pentenol 11 is sequentially reacted with 1) Pd-C/H2; 2) Tf2O/pyridine; 3) Pd(OAc)2, DPPF, CO, MeOH, Et3N, DMF; 4)
KOH/EtOH/H2O; 5) EDCI/Et3N/DMAP/ R4NHCH2CO2Me; and 6) LiOH/EtOH/H2O to give trans-pentenol amide-acid 12. For reaction step 3, DPPB and DMSO may be substituted for DPPF and DMF, respectively. Trans- pentenol amide-acid 12 is hydrogenated with Pd-C/H2 afford amide-acid 19.

Synthesis of Pentynol Phenyl alkyl Phenyl Acids (Scheme 3).

Ester 7 is hydrogenolyzed with Pd-C/H2 and reacted with Tf2O/pyridine to give triflate

10 13. Triflate 13 is sequentially reacted with 1) TMS-acetylene, PdCl2(PPh3)2, Et3N, and
DMF and 2) CsF and water to afford acetylene 14. Acetylene 14 is treated with
Zn(OTf)2/t-butyl aldehyde/chiral auxiliary (with or without) to give alcohol 15.
Alternatively, acetylene 14 is reacted with LiHMDS/ketone 9 to give alcohol 15. Alcohol
15 is hydrolyzed with KOH/EtOH/H2O to afford acid 16. Acid 16 is sequentially reacted
with 1) EDCI/Et3N/DMAP/R4NHCH2CO2Me and 2) LiOH/EtOH/H2O to give amide-

Synthesis of Cis-Pentenol Phenyl alkyl Phenyl Acids (Scheme 4).

Amide-acid 17 is hydrogenated with Lindlar catalyst to afford cis-pentenol amide-acid 18.

Cis-pentenol amide-acid 18 is hydrogenated with Pd-C/H2 afford amide-acid 19.

Alternatively, amide-acid 17 is hydrogenated with Pd-C/H2 afford amide-acid 19.

EXAMPLES

General Experimental Conditions:

The starting material/intermediate is the compound from the immediate preceding experimental unless otherwise indicated.

All reactions are performed under nitrogen/argon atmosphere, in a stirred reaction vessel, and at room temperature unless indicated otherwise.

Unless otherwise indicated, the organic layer is MgSO₄/Na₂SO₄ dried is defined as stirring the solution with a dessicant for 5-15 m and filtering off the dessicant to give an anhydrous filtrate.

For analogous multi-step reaction procedures, the yield is given either for the ultimate step or overall multi-steps as indicated.

Solutions are "concentrated" at a range of 25-75 °C with reduced pressure. in-vacuo – 25-75 °C; 0.05 to 1 mm

Unless otherwise indicated, "the residue is chromatographed" is defined as silica gel chromatography of residue with moderate nitrogen pressure (flash chromatography) or a medium pressure chromatography systems using a silica gel to crude product ratio of ~10-100.

For HPLC, the conditions listed are for the analytical trace only. For Preparative HPLC, the eluent is similar to analytical HPLC eluent.

Thin layer chromatography is performed with silica gel plates with UV and/or appropriate staining solution.

NMR spectra are obtained with either 300 or 400 mHz spectrometer.

NMR data is listed to denote spectrum is consistent with assigned structure.

"NMR" notation without data denotes spectrum is consistent with assigned structure.

HRMS - high resolution mass spectrum

ES-MS - electrospray mass spectrum

Abbreviations:

Aq - aqueous

d – day

eq - equivalent

h - hour

m - minute

satd - saturated

disp - dispersion

quant - quantitative

rt for retention time (both small caps to minimize confusion with RT)

30 RT – room temperature

		Chemical Definitions:
		BF3-OEt2 – boron trifluoride etherate
		BnBr – benzyl bromide
		CH2Cl2-dichloromethane
5		CH3CN – acetonitrile
	,	CO-carbon monoxide
		CsF – cesium fluoride
	•	DMAP - 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine
		DMF - N,N-dimethylformamide
10		DMSO – dimethylsulfoxide
		DPPB - 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane
		DPPF - dichloro[1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene
		EDCI – 3-Ethyl-1-[3-(dimethylamino)propyl]carbodiimide hydrochloride
		Et3N – triethylamine
15		EtMgBr- ethyl magnesium bromide
•		EtOAc - ethyl acetate
		EtOH – ethanol
		H2 – hydrogen pressure
		H2NCH2CO2Me – methyl glycinate
20.		Hept – heptane
		Hex - hexanes
		HN(OMe)Me - N-methyl-O-methyl hydroxylamine
		HNMe2 – dimethyl amine
		HATU - O-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium
25		hexafluorophosphate
		HOAT – 7-aza-1-hydroxybenzotriazole
		HOBT – 1-hydroxybenzotriazole
		K2CO3 – potassium carbonate
		KI – potassium iodine
30		KOH – potassium hydroxide

LAH - lithium aluminum hydride

 $LiHMDS-lithium\ hexamethyldisilazide$

Lindlar catalyst - Pd-CaCO₃-PbO LiOH – lithium hydroxide mCPBA - meta-chloroperbenzoic acid MeI - methyl iodide 5 MeOH - methanol NaBH4 - sodium borohydride MgSO4- magnesium sulfate NaH - sodium hydridè NaHCO3-sodium bicarbonate NaI - sodium iodide 10 Na2SO4- sodium sulfate NH4Cl- ammonium chloride NMO - 4-methylmorpholine N-oxide NMP - N-methylpyrrolidin-2-one Na-S-R3 – sodium alkylmercaptide 15 PBr3 – phosphorus tribromide Pd(DPPF) - palladium dichloro[1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene Pd(OAc)2 - palladium (II) acetate Pd(TPP)4 - palladium tetrakistriphenylphosphine Pd-C – palladium on carbon 20 Pd-C/H2 - palladium on carbon with hydrogen pressure pTSA - para-toluenesulfonic acid Pyr – pyridine Red-Al - sodium bis(2-methoxyethoxy)aluminum hydride 25 R2MgBr – alkyl magnesium bromide R3MgBr - alkyl magnesium bromide R5MgBr - alkyl magnesium bromide R3S(O)2Cl – alkylsulfonyl chloride R2S(O)2NH2 - alkylsulfonamide TBSCl- tert-butyldimethylsilyl chloride 30 tBuC(O)CH2Br - 1-bromopinacolone

Tf2O - triflic anhydride

15

20

25

TFA - trifluoroacetic acid

THF - tetrahydrofuran

Ti(OiPr)4 - titanium tetraisopropoxide

TMS-acetylene - trimethylsilyl acetylene

TPAP - tetrapropylammonium perruthenate

Zn(OTf)2 - zinc trifluoromethane sulfonate

Example 1

Preparation of 2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-10 propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid.

A. [E, Z]-3-(3-Methyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-pentene

A mixture of 3-(3-methyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-pentanol (20.0 g, 102.9 mmol), pTSA monohydrate (50 mg, 0.26 mmol catalytic amount), cyclohexane (150 mL), and toluene (250 mL) is refluxed on a steam bath for 3 h. During the reflux time, water is separated by means of a Dean-Stark trap. Analysis of the reaction mixture by TLC (SiO2; CHCl3) shows a spot to spot transformation of the starting material into a less polar material. The cyclohexane-toluene solution is cooled to RT, washed with satd sodium carbonate solution (25 mL), MgSO4 dried, and concentrated to give the title compounds as a [E:Z] isomeric mixture of [4:1] (17.36 g, 96%).

H-NMR (300 mHz, DMSO-d6): δ 6.85-7.10 (3H, m), 5.56 (0.8H, q, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.39, 0.2H, q, J = 6.8 Hz), 2.40((1.6H, q, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.25 (0.4H, q, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.15 (0.6H, s), 2.05 (2.4H, s), 1.70 (2.4H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 1.51 (0.6H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 0.90 (2.4H, t, J = 7.6 Hz)), 0.85 (0.4H, t, J = 7.6 Hz).

ES GC MS m/z 176.1, [M+]; Calc. C12H16O m/z 176.1.

B. [E,Z]-3-[3-Methyl-4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy)phenyl)-3-pentene.

A solution of [E,Z]-3-(3-methyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-pentene (17.0 g, 96.4 mmol)

and triethylamine (10.3 g, 101 mmol) in CH2Cl2 (400 mL) under a N2 atmosphere is cooled to -35 °C in a dry ice bath. Triflic anhydride (28.6 g, 101 mmol) is added slowly

by syringe so as to maintain the temperature below -30 °C. The resulting pale yellow

solution is stirred for 3 h as it is allowed to warm to RT. The reaction mixture is poured

over 300 ml pH 7.0 buffer and 300 ml ice. The organic layer is separated and the CH2Cl2

layer is washed with additional (4x 150 mL) buffer and dried over anhydrous MgSO4.

Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure gives the crude product as a yellow oil (approx 30 g). The product is purified by chromatography over silica using elution with

5% CHCl3 in hexane. The desired product is obtained as a clear, colorless liquid as a

mixture of [E:Z] isomers ratio of 4:1, respectively (29.4 g, 99%).

H-NMR (300 mHz, DMSO-d6): δ 7.01-7.28 (3H, m), 5.76 (0.8H, q, J = 6.8 Hz), 5.57,

0.2H, q, J = 6.8 Hz), 2.52 ((1.6H, q, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.25 (0.4H, q, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.40

(0.6H, s), 2.39 (2.4H, s), 1.81 (2.4H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 1.55 (0.6H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 0.99

(2.4H, t, J = 7.6 Hz)), 0.97 (0.4H, t, J = 7.6 Hz).

20 ES GC MS m/z 308.1, [M+]; Calc. for C13H15F3O3S m/z 308.1.

C [E,Z]-3-(3-Methyl-4-carbomethoxyphenyl)-3-pentene.

A mixture of [E,Z]-3-[3-methyl-4-(trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy)phenyl)-3-pentene (25.0 g, 81 mmol), MeOH, dppb, DMSO, Et3N, and Pd(OAc)2 is carbonylated by reaction at 80 °C under an atmosphere of CO (100 psi). for a total of 6 h. The cooled

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reaction mixture is filtered through filter-cel with the aid of additional MeOH. The filtrate is concentrated under reduced pressure to remove most of the DMSO and the residue is distributed between EtOAc and brine. The organic layer is washed 5 times with brine, dried over MgSO4, and concentrated to an oil. The oil is purified by chromatography over silica gel using a 10% to 50% chloroform in hexane gradient. Concentration of appropriate fractions provides the desired product as a clear, nearly colorless liquid as a mixture of [E:Z] isomers ratio of 4:1, respectively (15.2 g, 86%). TLC (CHCl3): Rf ~ 0.7

H-NMR (300 mHz, CDCl3): δ 7.03-7.93 (3H, m), 5.83 (0.75H, q, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.57 (0.25H, q, J = 6.9 Hz), 3.91 (0.6H, s), 3.90 (2.4H, s), 2.54((1.5H, q, J = 7.6 Hz), 2.35 (0.5H, q, J = 7.6 Hz), 1.83 (2.25H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 1.57 (0.75H, d, J = 7.6 Hz), 1.00 (2.25H, t, J = 7.6 Hz), 0.97 (0.75H, t, J = 7.6 Hz).

D. 3'-[3-Methyl-4-(hydroxy)phenyl]-3'-(3-methyl-4-carbomethoxy-15 phenyl)pentane.

A 25 °C solution of [E,Z]-3-[3-methyl-4-(carbomethoxy)phenyl)-3-pentene (5.00g, 22.9 mmol) in o-cresol (9.90 g, 91.6 mmol) is treated with BF3-etherate (5.6 g, 39.5 mmol) and the reaction mixture is stirred for 16 h at ambient temperatue. Analysis by TLC (SiO2; CHCl3) shows loss of the starting material and formation of a major product spot at slightly lower Rf than o-cresol. The reaction mixture is taken up in 200 mL ice water and 200 mL ether and carefully basified with excess solid NaHCO3. The ether layer is separated, washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO4 and concentrated to an oil. The oil is vacuum distilled with 3 x 15 mL ethylene glycol to remove the remaining o-cresol and the resulting pot residue is cooled and redistributed into ether and water and treated with NaHCO3, as above. The ether layer is separated, washed with water, dried over MgSO4 and concentrated to provide the crude product as a yellow oil (7.3 g). The oil is purified by chromatography over silica gel using CHCl3 to provide the title compound as a pale yellow oil (5.42 g, 72%).

-68-

H-NMR (300 mHz, CDCl3): 6.66 to 7.83 (6H, m) 4.54 (1H, s), 3.89 (3H, s), 2.61 (3H, s), 2.21 (3H, s), 2.08 (4H, q, J = 7.3 Hz), 0.62 (6H, t, J = 7.3 Hz). ES (-) MS m/z 325.2 [M-H] IR (CHCl3): 1716 cm⁻¹

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E. 4-[1-Ethyl-1-(3-methyl-4-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methylbenzoic acid methyl ester

4-[1-Ethyl-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (10.0 g, 30.63 mmol) in pyridine (30 ml) is added dropwise trifluoromethane sulfonic anhydride (10.37 g, 36.76 mmol) and warmed to room temperature overnight. The reaction is quenched by pouring into ice/water mix (200 ml) and extracted with Et₂O (3 x 200 ml). The combinded organic layers are washed with water (100 ml), 1N HCl (100 ml), water (100 ml), brine (100 ml), dried (MgSO₄), concentrated and chromatographed (330 g SiO₂, 5% EtOAc/Hexanes) to yield the title compound (12.46 g, 90%) as a pale yellow oil.

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.85 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.15 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.10-7.02 (m, 4H), 7.10-7.02 (m, 4H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.13 (q, 4H, J=7.3 Hz), 0.64 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz).

F. 4-[1-Ethyl-1-(3-methyl-4-trimethylsilanylethynyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methylbenzoic acid methyl ester

4-[1-Ethyl-1-(3-methyl-4-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-25 benzoic acid methyl ester (11.20 g, 24.43 mmol) in DMF (100 ml) is added trimethylsilylacetylene (6.90 ml, 48.85 mmol), dichlorobis(triphenylphosphine)

palladium (1.71 g, 2.44 mmol) and triethylamine (23.84 ml, 171 mmol)and heated to 80 °C overnight. The reaction mixture is concentrated and filtered through a pad of silica gel eluted with 10% EtOAc/Hexanes. The eluent is concentrated and chromatographed (330 g SiO₂, 2% EtOAc/Hexanes) to yield the title compound (8.07 g, 81%) as an orange oil. ¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.82 (d, 1H, J=7.9 Hz), 7.35 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.08-6.97 (m, 3H), 6.94 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.11 (q, 5H, J=7.7 Hz), 0.62 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz), 0.28 (s, 9H).

G. 4-[1-Ethyl-1-(4-ethynyl-3-methyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester

To an ambient temperature suspension of 4-[1-Ethyl-1-(3-methyl-4-trimethylsilanylethynyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (6.8 g, 16.72 mmol) in acetonitrile/water (180/30 ml) is added cesium fluoride (25.4 g, 167.2 mmol) and stirred for 3d. The reaction mixture is concentrated and partitioned between EtOAc (500 ml) and 1N HCl (200 ml). The aqueous phase is extracted with a second portion of EtOAc (200 ml) and the combined organic phases are washed with brine (200 ml), dried (MgSO₄), concentrated and chromatographed (330 g SiO₂, 1% EtOAc/Hexanes) to yield the title compound (5.52 g, 99%).

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.80 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.34 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.04-6.99 (m, 2H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, 1H, J=7.9 Hz), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.09 (q, 4H, J=7.2 Hz), 0.60 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz).

H. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-25 methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2004/037182

To a –78 C solution of 4-[1-Ethyl-1-(4-ethynyl-3-methyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (2.50 g, 7.47 mmol) in THF (80 ml) is added lithium hexamethyldisilazide (8.22 ml, 8.22 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) and stirred at –78 C for 30 min. Cyclopentanone (730 μL, 8.22 mmol) is added and the reaction mixture warmed to room temperature. The reaction is quenched with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (30 ml) and concentrated. The residue is partitioned between EtOAc (300 ml) and 1.0N HCl (50 ml). The aqueous layer is extracted with EtOAc (100 ml). The combined organic layer are washed with water (50 ml), brine (50 ml), dried (MgSO₄), concentrated and chromatographed (120 g SiO₂, 5% EtOAc/Hexanes) to yield the title compound (2.45 g, 79%).

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¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.83 (d, 1H, J=8.8 Hz), 7.32 (dd, 1H, J=7.9, 2.2 Hz), 7.08-6.98 (m, 3H), 6.95 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.12 (q, 4H, J=7.2 Hz), 1.87-1.74 (m, 4H), 1.15 (t, 6H, J=7.4 Hz), 0.64 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz).

I. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid.

To an ambient temperature solution of 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (2.40 g, 5.73 mmol) in dioxane/water (30/30 ml) is added lithium hydroxide (412 mg, 17.20 mmol) and heated to 60 °C for 1h. The reaction is concentrated and partitioned between Et₂O/EtOAc (150/150 ml) and 1N HCl (50 ml). The aqueous phase is extracted with a

WO 2005/051893

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-71-

second portion of EtOAc (100 ml) and the combined organic phases are washed with water (50 ml), brine (50 ml), dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to yield the title compound (1.57 g, 68%).

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.93 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.28 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.05 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.92 (dd, 1H, J=8.1, 2.0 Hz), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.15-1.97 (m, 8H), 1.94-1.72 (m, 4H), 0.60 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz). High Res. EI-MS: 403.2270; calc. for $C_{27}H_{32}O_3$ -H: 403.2273.

J. 2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester.

4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid (389 mg, 0.962 mmol), α-aminoisobutyric acid methyl ester hydrochloride (221 mg, 1.44 mmol), 1-(3-dimethyl-aminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (276 mg, 1.44 mmol), 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (195 mg, 1.44 mmol) and triethylamine (536 μL, 3.85 mmol) are stirred overnight. The reaction is concentrated and partitioned between EtOAc (150 ml) and 1N HCl (50 ml). The aqueous layer is extracted with EtOAc (100 ml). The combined organic layers are washed with water (50 ml), NaHCO₃ (50 ml), brine (50 ml), dried (anhydrous MgSO₄), concentrated and chromatographed (12 g SiO₂, 15% EtOAc/Hexanes) to yield the title compound (398 mg, 82%).

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.29-7.24 (m, 2H), 6.99-6.88 (m, 4H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.12-1.98 (m, 8H), 1.93-1.73 (m, 4H), 1.65 (s, 6H), 0.59 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz).

25 High Res. EI-MS: 504.3133; calc. for C₃₂H₄₁NO₄+H: 504.3114.

K. 2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid.

2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(1-hydroxy-cyclopentylethynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester (360 mg, 0.715 mmol) and lithium hydroxide (51 mg, 2.15 mmol) are reacted and purified in a procedure analogous to Example 1I to give the title compound (353 mg, quant.).

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.27 (d, 2H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.01-6.87 (m, 4H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.12-1.98 (m, 8H), 1.93-1.73 (m, 4H), 1.68 (s, 6H), 0.59 (t, 6H, J=7.0 Hz).

High Res. EI-MS: 490.2957; calc. for C₃₁H₃₉NO₄+H: 490.2975.

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Example 2.

Preparation of 2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid.

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A. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester.

4-[1-Ethyl-1-(4-ethynyl-3-methyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (2.50 g, 7.47 mmol), lithium hexamethyldisilazide (8.22 ml, 8.22 mmol, 1.0 M in

THF) and 3-pentanone (870 μ L, 8.22 mmol) are reacted and purified analogous to Example 1H to give the title compound (2.22 g, 71%).

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.79 (d, 1H, J=7.9 Hz), 7.27 (d, 1H, J=8.6 Hz), 7.04-6.98 (m, 2H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 6.91 (dd, 1H, J=8.0, 1.9 Hz), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.13-1.98 (m, 8H), 1.94-1.72 (m, 5H), 0.59 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz).

B. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid.

4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (2.20 g, 5.23 mmol) and lithium hydroxide (376 mg, 15.69 mmol) are reacted and purified analogous to Example 1I to give the title compound (1.77 g, 83%).

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.93 (d, 1H, J=7.9 Hz), 7.29 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 7.08-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, 1H, J=7.5 Hz), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.10 (q, 4H, J=7.3 Hz), 1.84-1.69 (m, 4H), 1.11 (t, 6H, J=7.2 Hz), 0.61 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz).

High Res. EI-MS: 405.2444; calc. for C₂₇H₃₄O₃-H: 405.2430.

20 C. 2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester.

4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid (437 mg, 1.07 mmol), α-aminoisobutyric acid methyl ester

hydrochloride (247 mg, 1.61 mmol), 1-(3-dmethyl-aminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (309 mg, 1.61 mmol), 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (218 mg, 1.61 mmol) and triethylamine (597 μ L, 4.28 mmol) are reacted and purified analogous to Example 1J to give the title compound (419 mg, 77%).

- ¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.29-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.00-6.89 (m, 4H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.06 (q, 4H, J=7.3 Hz), 1.83-1.70 (m, 4H), 1.65 (s, 6H), 1.11 (t, 6H, J=7.5 Hz), 0.59 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz). High Res. EI-MS: 506.3271; calc. for C₃₂H₄₃NO₄+H: 506.3270.
- D. 2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid.

2-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-pent-1-ynyl)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-propionic acid methyl ester (397 mg, 0.785 mmol) and lithium hydroxide (56 mg, 2.36 mmol) are reacted and purified analogous to Example 11 to give the title compound (384 mg, 99%).

¹NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃) δ ppm: 7.30-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 2H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, 1H, J=8.4 Hz), 6.21 (s, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.07 (q, 4H, J=6.6 Hz), 1.83-1.71 (m, 4H), 1.68 (s, 6H), 1.11 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz),

20 0.59 (t, 6H, J=7.3 Hz).

High Res. EI-MS: 492.3116; calc. for C₃₁H₄₁NO₄+H: 492.3114.

Example 3

25 Preparation of (4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-ethyl-2-hydroxy-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid.

A. 3',3'-Bis[4-hydroxy-3-methylphenyl]pentane.

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To a mixture of o-cresol (196 g, 1.81 mol) and 3-pentanone (60 ml, 0.57 mol) is added methanesulfonic acid (45 ml, 0.69 mol) and stirred for 3 days. The reaction is basified to pH 8 with satd Na₂CO₃ and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer is washed with water (6 X 500 ml), Na₂SO₄ dried, concentrated, chromatographed (2 kg SiO₂, Hex to 80% EtOAc/Hex), and triturated with Hex to give the title compound as a white solid (100 g, 61%).

NMR 400 mHz(DMSO): δ 0.49 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 6H), 1.91 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 4H), 2.02 (s, 6H), 6.61 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 2H), 8.94 (s, 2H). High Res. EI-MS: 284.1794; calc. for $C_{19}H_{24}O_{2}$: 284.1776

B. 3'-[4-Benzyloxy-3-methylphenyl]-3'-[4-hydroxy-3-methylphenyl]pentane.

To a solution of 3,3-bis[4-hydroxy-3-methylphenyl]pentane (10 g, 35.2 mmol) and DMF (180 ml) is added 60% NaH disp (1.4 g, 35.2 mmol). After stirring for 30 m, to the reaction is added benzyl bromide (4.2 ml, 35.2 mmol). The mixture is stirred for 14 h and concentrated in vacuo. The residue is partitioned between Et₂O/water. The organic layer is washed with 1N HCl, water, brine, Na₂SO₄ dried, concentrated, and chromatographed (MeCl₂) to give the title compound as an oil (6.5 g, 49%)

High Res. FAB-MS: 374.2237; calc. for C₂₆H₃₀O₂: 374.2246

C. {4-[1-(4-Benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 3B, from 4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenol (9.76 g, 25.93 mmol) and methyl bromoacetate (2.7 mL, 28.53 mmol) gives the title compound (10.24 g, 22.96 mmol, 89%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 2.04 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 4.62 (s, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.97 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.48 (m, 5H).

ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{29}H_{38}NO_4(M+NH_4)^+$: 464.6; found: 464.3.

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-77-

D. 3-{4-[1-(4-Benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-pentan-3-ol.

To a solution of {4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (4.78 g, 10.72 mmol) in THF (40 mL) at 0 °C is added 3.0 M EtMgBr (8.9 mL, 26.8 mmol) in a dropwise fashion. After the addition, it is stirred at 0 °C for 10 m, then refluxed for 3 h. The reaction mixture is

MgSO₄ dried, and concentrated and chromatographed to give the title compound (4.06 g, 8.56 mmol, 80%).

poured into ice-H₂O, acidified with 0.1 M HCl and extracted with EtOAc (100 mL):

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 1.68 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.69 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.00-2.09 (m, 4H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.99 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.48 (m, 5H).

ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{32}H_{46}NO_3$ (M+NH₄)⁺: 492.7; found: 492.4.

E. Acetic acid 1-{4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-1-ethyl-propyl ester.

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A reaction mixture containing 3-{4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-pentan-3-ol (3.92 g, 8.27 mmol), Et₃N (11.5 mL, 82.7 mmol) and Ac₂O (3.9 mL, 41.3 mmol), is stirred at rt for 3 h. It is diluted with EtOAc (100 mL), washed with 0.1 M HCl (2 x 60 mL) and brine (60 mL); MgSO₄ dried and concentrated to give the title compound (2.82 g, 5.47 mmol, 66%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 1.98-2.09 (m, 11H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 4.13 (s, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.98 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.47 (m, 5H).

ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{34}H_{48}NO_4(M+NH_4)^{\dagger}$: 534.7; found: 534.4.

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F. Acetic acid 1-ethyl-1-{4-[1-ethyl-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-propyl ester.

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Acetic acid 1-{4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-1-ethyl-propyl ester (0.14 g g, 0.27 mmol), EtOH (20 ml), and 10% Pd/C (25 mg) is hydrogenated at atmospheric pressure for 18 h. The reaction is filtered through diatomaceous earth with EtOAc wash. The filtrate is concentrated to give the title compound (0.11 g, 0.25 mmol, 94%).

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¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 1.97-2.09 (m, 11H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 4.13 (s, 2H), 6.65 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.84-6.96 (m, 4H).

ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{27}H_{37}O_4$ (M-H): 425.6; found: 425.4.

-79-

D. Acetic acid 1-ethyl-1-{4-[1-ethyl-1-(3-methyl-4-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-propyl ester.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1B, acetic acid 1-ethyl-1-{4-[1-ethyl-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-propyl ester (2.32 g, 5.43 mmol) gives the title compound (1.94 g, 3.48 mmol, 64%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 1.97-2.10 (m, 11H),

2.15 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 4.13 (s, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H). ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{28}H_{41}F_3NO_6S$ (M+NH₄)⁺: 576.7; found: 576.3.

E. 4-{1-[4-(2-Acetoxy-2-ethyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl}-1-ethyl-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester.

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Using a procedure analogous to Example 1C, acetic acid 1-ethyl-1-{4-[1-ethyl-1-(3-methyl-4-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy-phenyl)-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-propyl ester (1.94 g, 3.48 mmol) gives the title compound (1.37 g, 2.95 mmol, 85%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 1.97-2.11 (m, 11H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 4.13 (s, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J =

1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02-7.07 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H). ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{29}H_{40}O_5$: 468.6; found: 468.0.

F. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-ethyl-2-hydroxy-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1I, 4-{1-[4-(2-acetoxy-2-ethyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-1-ethyl-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (1.38 g, 2.95 mmol) gives the title compound (0.96 g, 2.34 mmol, 79%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.63 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.68 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.69 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 6.71 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.06-7.10 (m, 2H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H).

ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{26}H_{35}O_4$ (M-H): 411.6; found: 411.3.

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G. (4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-ethyl-2-hydroxy-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid methyl ester.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1J, 4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-ethyl-2-hydroxy-20 butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid (0.64 g, 1.55 mmol) and glycine methyl ester hydrochloride (195 mg, 1.55 mmol) gives the title compound (0.72 g, 1.49 mmol, 96%). %). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.68 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.69 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 4.24 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 6.28 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H).

ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{29}H_{42}NO_5(M+H)^+$: 484.6; found: 484.4.

H. (4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-ethyl-2-hydroxy-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid.

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Using a procedure analogous to Example 1I, (4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-ethyl-2-hydroxy-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid methyl ester (0.72 g, 1.48 mmol) gives the title compound (0.45 g, 0.97 mmol, 657%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 0.95 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 1.68 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.69 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.06 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 4.26 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99-7.06 (m, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H). ES-MS (m/z): calcd for C₂₈H₃₈NO₅ (M-H): 468.6; found: 468.4.

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Example 4

Preparation of (4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid.

-82-

A. {4-[1-(4-Benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1I, from {4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid methyl ester (1.58 g, 3.54 mmol) gives the title compound (1.47 g, 3.40 mmol, 96%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 2.04 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.98 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.47 (m, 5H). ES-MS (m/z): calcd for C₂₈H₃₁O₄ (M-H): 431.6; found: 431.3.

B. 2-{4-[1-(4-Benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-N-methoxy-N-methyl-acetamide.

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Using an analogous procedure to Example 1J, {4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-acetic acid (1.46 g, 3.38 mmol) and *N,O*-dimethylmethylhydroxyamine hydrochloride (363 mg, 3.72 mmol) give the title compound (1.24 g, 2.61 mmol, 77%).

- ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 2.03 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 4.80 (s, 2H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.98 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.47 (m, 5H). ES-MS (m/z): calcd for C₃₀H₃₈NO₄ (M+H)⁺: 476.6; found: 476.4.
- 10 C. 1-{4-[1-(4-Benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-3-methyl-butan-2-one.

To a 0 °C solution of 2-{4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-N-methoxy-N-methyl-acetamide (2.36 g, 4.98 mmol) in THF (50 mL) is added 2.0 M iPrMgCl (3.0 mL, 5.98 mmol). The reaction is stirred at 0 °C for 30 m, then at RT for 1 h. It is quenched with satd NH₄Cl (20 mL), diluted with H₂O (50 mL),; extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL),; washed with 0.1 M HCl (50 mL), H₂O (50 mL); MgSO₄ dried, concentrated and purified to give the title compound (1.01 g, 2.21 mmol, 44%).

- ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 1.17 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 2.03 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 3.07 (quintet, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (s, 2H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 6.55 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.97 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.47 (m, 5H).
 - ES-MS (m/z): calcd for $C_{31}H_{42}NO_3(M+NH_4)^+$: 476.7; found: 476.4.

D. 3-{4-[1-(4-Benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-2,4-dimethyl-pentan-3-ol.

PCT/US2004/037182

Anhydrous CeCl₃ (0.82 g) is suspended in THF (30 mL) with stirring overnight. It is cooled to 0 °C, treated with 2.0 M iPrMgCl (1.3 mL) and stirred at 0 °C for 1h. A

5 solution of 1-{4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxy}-3-methyl-butan-2-one (1.01 g, 2.21 mmol) in THF (10 mL) is added. The mixture is stirred at 0 °C for 1 h, before it is quenched with 0.1 M HCl (20 mL). It is extracted with EtOAc (200 mL), washed with 0.1 M HCl (3 x 50 mL); MgSO₄ dried and concentrated to give the title compound (1.10 g, 2.19 mmol, 99%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 1.04 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 1.57 (b, 2H), 2.04 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 2H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.93-6.98 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.47 (m, 5H). ES-MS (m/z): calcd for C₃₄H₅₀NO₃ (M+NH₄)⁺: 520.7; found: 520.63.

E. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-phenol

Using a procedure analogous to Example 3F, 3-{4-[1-(4-benzyloxy-3-methyl-phenyl)-1-ethyl-propyl]-2-methyl-phenoxymethyl}-2,4-dimethyl-pentan-3-ol (5.06 g, 10.07 mmol) gives the title compound (3.97 g, 9.64 mmol, 96%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 1.00-1.06 (m, 12H), 2.03 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 2.11-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 6.65 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 10.0, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.89-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.96 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H).

F. Trifluoro-methanesulfonic acid 4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-10 butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-phenyl ester.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1B, 4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-phenol (3.79 g, 9.21 mmol) gives the title compound (1.90 g, 3.49 mmol, 38%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.00-1.06 (m, 12H), 2.05 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 2.11-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H).

G. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1C, from trifluoro-methanesulfonic acid 4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-phenyl ester (3.80 g, 6.98 mmol) to give the title compound (2.75 g, 6.05 mmol, 87%).

- ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 0.98-1.04 (m, 12H), 2.07 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 2.10-2.18 (m, 2H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H).
- 10 H. 4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1I, 4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid methyl ester (0.30 g, 0.59 mmol) gives the title compound (0.96 g, 2.18 mmol, 56%).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.63 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 6H), 1.00-1.06 (m, 12H), 2.10 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 2.12-2.19 (m, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.62 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 6.71 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H).

- 20 ES-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₂₈H₃₉NO₄ (M-H): 439.6; found: 439.2.
 - I. Preparation of (4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid methyl ester.

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Using a procedure analogous to Example 1J, 4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoic acid (0.30 g, 0.68 mmol) and glycine methyl ester hydrochloride (0.094 g, 0.75 mmol) gives the titled compound (0.30 g, 0.59 mmol, 86%).

- ¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.62 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 0.98-1.06 (m, 12H), 2.07 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 2.10-2.19 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 1H), 4.23 (d, J = 5.1 Hz), 6.29 (t, J = 5.1 Hz), 6.70 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 6.84 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H).
- J. (4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid.

Using a procedure analogous to Example 1I, (4-{1-ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-3-methyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-benzoylamino)-acetic acid methyl ester (0.30 g, 0.59 mmol) gives the title compound (0.25 g, 0.50 mmol, 86 %).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃), δ 0.61 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 0.98-1.06 (m, 12H), 2.06 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H), 2.10-2.19 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 4.25 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 6.40 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ES-MS (m/z): calcd. for C₃₀H₄₂NO₅ (M-H): 496.3; found: 496.6.

Compounds of the Invention - Salts, Stereoisomers, & Prodrugs:

Salts of the compounds represented by formulae I are an additional aspect of the invention. The skilled artisan will also appreciate that the family of compounds of formulae I include acidic and basic members and that the present invention includes pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

In those instances where the compounds of the invention possess acidic or basic functional groups various salts may be formed which are more water soluble and physiologically suitable than the parent compound. Representative pharmaceutically acceptable salts, include but are not limited to, the alkali and alkaline earth salts such as

lithium, sodium, potassium, ammonium, calcium, magnesium, aluminum, zinc, and the like. Sodium and potassium saltgs are particularly preferred. Salts are conveniently prepared from the free acid by treating the acid in solution with a base or by exposing the acid to an ion exchange resin. For example, a carboxylic acid substituent on the compound of Formula I may be selected as -CO₂H and salts may be formed by reaction with appropriate bases (e.g., NaOH, KOH) to yield the corresponding sodium and potassium salt.

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Included within the definition of pharmaceutically acceptable salts are the relatively non-toxic, inorganic and organic base addition salts of compounds of the present invention, for example, ammonium, quaternary ammonium, and amine cations, derived from nitrogenous bases of sufficient basicity to form salts with the compounds of this invention (see, for example, S. M. Berge, et al., "Pharmaceutical Salts," J. Phar. Sci., 66: 1-19 (1977)). Moreover, the basic group(s) of the compound of the invention may be reacted with suitable organic or inorganic acids to form salts such as acetate, benzenesulfonate, benzoate, bicarbonate, bisulfate, bitartrate, borate, bromide, camsylate, carbonate, chloride, choline, clavulanate, citrate, chloride, chloroprocaine, choline, diethanolamine, dihydrochloride, diphosphate, edetate, edisylate, estolate, esylate, ethylenediamine, fluoride, fumarate, gluceptate, gluconate, glutamate, glycolylarsanilate, hexylresorcinate, hydrabamine, bromide, chloride, hydrobromide, hydrochloride, hydroxynaphthoate, iodide, isothionate, lactate, lactobionate, laurate, malate, maleate, malseate, mandelate, meglumine, mesylate, mesviate, methylbromide, methylnitrate, methylsulfate, mucate, napsylate, nitrate, oleate, oxalate, palmitate, pamoate, pantothenate, phosphate, polygalacturonate, procane, salicylate, stearate, subacetate, succinate, sulfate, tannate, tartrate, teoclate, tosylate, trifluoroacetate, trifluoromethane sulfonate, and valerate.

Certain compounds of the invention may possess one or more chiral centers and may thus exist in optically active forms. Likewise, when the compounds contain an alkenyl or alkenylene group there exists the possibility of cis- and trans- isomeric forms of the compounds. The R- and S- isomers and mixtures thereof, including racemic mixtures as well as mixtures of cis- and trans- isomers, are contemplated by this invention. Additional asymmetric carbon atoms can be present in a substituent group such as an alkyl group. All such isomers as well as the mixtures thereof are intended to be included

in the invention. If a particular stereoisomer is desired, it can be prepared by methods well known in the art by using stereospecific reactions with starting materials which contain the asymmetric centers and are already resolved or, alternatively by methods which lead to mixtures of the stereoisomers and subsequent resolution by known methods. For example, a chiral column may be used such as those sold by Daicel Chemical Industries identified by the trademarks:

CHIRALPAK AD, CHIRALPAK AS, CHIRALPAK OD, CHIRALPAK OJ, CHIRALPAK OA, CHIRALPAK OB, CHIRALPAK OC, CHIRALPAK OF, CHIRALPAK OG, CHIRALPAK OK, and

10 CHIRALPAK CA-1.

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By another conventional method, a racemic mixture may be reacted with a single enantiomer of some other compound. This changes the racemic form into a mixture of diastereomers. These diastereomers, because they have different melting points, different boiling points, and different solubilities can be separated by conventional means, such as crystallization.

The present invention is also embodied in mixtures of compounds of formulae I. Prodrugs are derivatives of the compounds of the invention which have chemically or metabolically cleavable groups and become by solvolysis or under physiological conditions the compounds of the invention which are pharmaceutically active in vivo. Derivatives of the compounds of this invention have activity in both their acid and base 20 derivative forms, but the acid derivative form often offers advantages of solubility, tissue compatibility, or delayed release in a mammalian organism (see, Bundgard, H., Design of Prodrugs, pp. 7-9, 21-24, Elsevier, Amsterdam 1985). Prodrugs include acid derivatives well known to practitioners of the art, such as, for example, esters prepared by reaction of the parent acidic compound with a suitable alcohol, or amides prepared by reaction of the . 25 parent acid compound with a suitable amine. Simple aliphatic or aromatic esters derived from acidic groups pendent on the compounds of this invention are preferred prodrugs. In some cases it is desirable to prepare double ester type prodrugs such as (acyloxy) alkyl esters or ((alkoxycarbonyl)oxy)alkyl esters. Particularly preferred esters to use as 30 prodrugs are; methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, morpholinoethyl, and N,N-diethylglycolamido.

-90-

N,N-diethylglycolamido ester prodrugs may be prepared by reaction of the sodium salt of a compound of Formula (I) (in a medium such as dimethylformamide) with 2-chloro-N,N-diethylacetamide (available from Aldrich Chemical Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin USA; Item No.25,099-6).

Morpholinylethyl ester prodrugs may be prepared by reaction of the sodium salt of a compound of Formula I (in a medium such as dimethylformamide) 4-(2-chloroethyl)morpholine hydrochloride (available from Aldrich Chemical Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin USA, Item No. C5,220-3). For example, prodrugs may be prepared by reaction of the sodium salt for a compound of Formula I with;

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and sodium iodide to provide tthe ester prodrug pendent group

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Also, lower alkyl (viz., C₁-C₈) ester prodrugs may be prepared by conventional means such as reacting the sodium or potassium salt (derived by forming the salt of any acidic compound of the invention; viz., reaction of a base such as KOH with an acidic group such as -CO₂H) of a compound of Formula I with an alkyl iodide such as methyl iodide, ethyl iodide, n-propyl iodide, isopropyl iodide. Typical ester prodrug substituents are

Pharmaceutical Formulations containing the Novel Compounds of the Invention:

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Pharmaceutical formulations of the invention are prepared by combining (e.g., mixing) a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of the invention (compounds of Formula I) together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent. The present pharmaceutical formulations are prepared by known procedures using well-known and readily available ingredients.

In making the compositions of the present invention, the compounds of Formula I will usually be admixed with a carrier, or diluted by a carrier, or enclosed within a carrier which may be in the form of a capsule, sachet, paper or other container. When the carrier serves as a diluent, it may be a solid, semi-solid or liquid material which acts as a vehicle, or can be in the form of tablets, pills, powders, lozenges, elixirs, suspensions, emulsions, solutions, syrups, aerosols (as a solid or in a liquid medium), or ointment, containing, for example, up to 10% by weight of the compound. The compounds of the present invention are preferably formulated prior to administration.

The compounds of the invention may also be delivered by suitable formulations contained in a transderm patch. Alternatively, the compounds of the invention may be delived to a patient by sublingual administration.

For the pharmaceutical formulations any suitable carrier known in the art can be used. In such a formulation, the carrier may be a solid, liquid, or mixture of a solid and a liquid. Solid form formulations include powders, tablets and capsules. A solid carrier can be one or more substances which may also act as flavoring agents, lubricants, solubilisers, suspending agents, binders, tablet disintegrating agents and encapsulating material.

Tablets for oral administration may contain suitable excipients such as calcium carbonate, sodium carbonate, lactose, calcium phosphate, together with disintegrating agents, such as maize, starch, or alginic acid, and/or binding agents, for example,

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gelatin or acacia, and lubricating agents such as magnesium stearate, stearic acid, or talc.

In powders the carrier is a finely divided solid which is in admixture with the finely divided Active ingredient. In tablets the compound of Formula I is mixed with a carrier having the necessary binding properties in suitable proportions and compacted in the shape and size desired. The powders and tablets preferably contain from about 1 to about 99 weight percent of the compound which is the novel compound of this invention. Suitable solid carriers are magnesium carbonate, magnesium stearate, talc, sugar lactose, pectin, dextrin, starch, gelatin, tragacanth, methyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, low melting waxes, and cocoa butter.

Sterile liquid form formulations include suspensions, emulsions, syrups and elixirs.

The Active Ingredient may be dissolved or suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such as sterile water, sterile organic solvent or a mixture of both. The compounds can often be dissolved in a suitable organic solvent, for instance aqueous propylene glycol. Other compositions can be made by dispersing the finely divided compounds of the invention in aqueous starch or sodium carboxymethyl cellulose solution or in a suitable oil.

20 Methods of Using the Compounds of the Invention:

Many disease states are benefited by treatment with the compounds of Formula I include, but are not limited to:

disease states characterized by abnormal calcium regulation disease states characterized by abnormal cell proliferation disease states characterized by abnormal cell differentiation disease states characterized by abnormal immune response disease states characterized by abnormal dermatological conditions disease states characterized by neurodegenerative condition disease states characterized by inflammation disease states characterized by vitamin D sensitivity disease states characterized by hyperproliferative disorders.

-93-

Specific disease states benefited by treatment of the compounds of Formula I and II include, but are not limited to:

Acne Actinic keratosis 5 Alopecia Alzheimer's disease Benign prostatic hyperplasia Bladder cancer Bone maintenance in zero gravity 10 Bone fracture healing Breast cancer Chemoprovention of Cancer Crohn's disease Colon cancer 15 Type I diabetes Host-graft rejection Hypercalcemia Type II diabetes Leukemia 20 Multiple sclerosis Myelodysplastic syndrome Insufficient sebum secretion Osteomalacia Osteoporosis 25 Insufficient dermal firmness Insufficient dermal hydration Psoriatic arthritis Prostate cancer **Psoriasis** 30 Renal osteodystrophy Rheumatoid arthritis Scleroderma

-94-

Skin cancer

Systemic lupus erythematosus

Skin cell protection from Mustard vesicants

Ulcerative colitis

Vitiligo

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Wrinkles

Particularly preferred is the treatment of psoriasis and osteoporosis by administration to a mammal (including a human) of a therapeutically effective amount of compounds of Formulae I. By "pharmaceutically effective amount" it is meant that quantity of pharmaceutical agent corresponding to formulae I which prevents, removes or reduces the deleterious effects of a disease state in mammals, including humans.

The specific dose of a compound administered according to this invention to obtain therapeutic or prophylactic effects will, of course, be determined by the particular circumstances surrounding the case, including, for example, the compound administered, the route of administration and the condition being treated. Typical daily doses will contain a pharmaceutically effective amount typically in the range of from about 0.0001 mg/kg/day to about 50 mg/kg/day of body weight of an active compound of this invention. Preferably the dose of compounds of the invention will be from 0.0001 to 5 mg/kg/day of body weight.

Preferably compounds of the invention (e.g., per Formula I) or pharmaceutical formulations containing these compounds are in unit dosage form for administration to a mammal. The unit dosage form can be a capsule or tablet itself, or the appropriate number of any of these. The quantity of Active ingredient in a unit dose of composition may be varied or adjusted from about 0.0001 to about 1000 milligrams or more according to the particular treatment involved. It may be appreciated that it is necessary to make routine variations to the dosage depending on the age and condition of the patient. Dosage will also depend on the route of administration. The compounds of the inventiion may be administered by a variety of routes including oral, aerosol, rectal, transdermal, sublingual, subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, and intranasal. Particularly preferred is the treatment of psoriasis with an ointment type formulation containing the compounds of the invention. The ointment formulation may be applied as needed, typically from one to 6 times daily.

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Treatment of psoriasis is preferably done with topical application by a formulation in the form of a cream, oil, emulsion, paste or ointment containing a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the invention. The formulation for topical treatment contains from 0.5 to 0.00005 weight percent, preferably from 0.05 to 0.0005 weight percent, and most preferably from 0.025 to 0.001 of a Active Ingredient.

For example, two semisolid topical preparations useful as vehicles for VDR modulators in treatment and prevention of psoriasis are as follows:

Polyethylene Glycol Ointment USP (p. 2495)

Prepare Polyethylene Glycol Ointment as follows:

Polyethylene Glycol 3350 400 g.

Polyethylene Glycol 400 600 g.

To make 1000 g.

Heat the two ingredients on a water bath to 65C. Allow to cool, and stir until congealed. If a firmer preparation is desired, replace up to 100 g of the polyethylene glycol 400 with an equal amount of polyethylene glycol 3350.

Hydrophilic Ointment USP (p. 1216)

Prepare Hydrophilic Ointment as follows:

Methylparaben 0.25 g. Propylparaben 0.15 g. Sodium Lauryl Sulfate 10 g. Propylene Glycol 120 g. Stearyl Alcohol 250 g. White Petrolatum 250 g. Purified Water 370 g. 1000 g. To make about

The Stearyl Alcohol and White Petrolatum are melted on a steam bath, and warmed to about 75C. The other ingredients, previously dissolved in the water are added, warmed to 75C, and the mixture stirred until it congeals.

For each of the above formulations the Active Ingredient is added during the heating step in an amount that is from 0.5 to 0.00005 weight percent, preferably from .05 to 0.0005 weight percent, and most preferably from 0.025 to 0.001 weight percent of the

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total ointment weight. (Source: - United States Pharmacopoeia 24, United States Pharmacopeial Convention, 1999)

Conventional therapy for osteoporosis includes; (i) estrogens, (ii) androgens, (iii) calcium supplements, (iv) vitamin D metabolites, (v) thiazide diuretics, (vi) calcitonin, (vii) bisphosphonates, (viii) SERMS, and (ix) fluorides (see, Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 13th edition, 1994, published by McGraw Hill Publ., ISBN 0-07-032370-4, pgs.2172-77; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.). Any one or combination of these conventional therapies may be used in combination with the method of treatment using compounds of Formulae I as taught herein. For example, in a method of treating osteoporosis, the vitamin D receptor modulator compounds of the invention (e.g., as defined by formula I) may be administered separately or simultaneously with a conventional therapy. Alternatively, the vitamin D receptor modulator compounds of the invention may be combined with conventional therapeutic agents in a formulation for treatment of osteoporosis such as set out below:

A formulation for treating osteoporosis comprising:

Ingredient (A1): a vitamin D receptor modulator represented by formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof;

20 Ingredient (B1):

one or more co-agents that are conventional for treatment osteoporosis selected from the group consisting of:

- a. estrogens,
- b. androgens,
- c. calcium supplements,
- d. vitamin D metabolites,
- e. thiazide diuretics,
- f. calcitonin,
- g. bisphosphonates,
- h. SERMS, and
- i. fluorides.

Ingredient (C1): optionally, a carrier or diluent.

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Typically useful formulations are those wherein the weight ratio of (A1) to (B1) is from 10:1 to 1:1000 and preferably from 1:1 to 1:100.

Combination Therapy for Psoriasis:

Conventional therapy for psoriasis includes topical glucocorticoids, salicylic acid, crude coal tar, ultraviolet light, and methotrexate (see, Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 13th edition, 1994, published by McGraw Hill Publ., ISBN 0-07-032370-4, pgs.2172-77). Any one or combination of these conventional therapies may be used in combination with the method of treatment using compounds of Formulae I as taught herein. For example, in a method of treating osteoporosis, the vitamin D receptor modulator compounds of the invention (e.g., as defined by formula I) may be topically administered separately or simultaneously with a conventional therapy. Alternatively, the vitamin D receptor modulator compounds of the invention may be combined with conventional therapeutic agents in a topically applied formulation for treatment of osteoporosis such as set out below:

A formulation for treating osteoporosis comprising:

Ingredient (A2): a vitamin D receptor modulator represented by formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof;

Ingredient (B2):

one or more co-agents that are conventional for treatment osteoporosis selected from the group consisting of:

- a. topical glucocorticoids,
- b. salicylic acid, or
- c. crude coal tar.

Ingredient (C2): optionally, a carrier or diluent.

Typically useful formulations are those wherein the weight ratio of (A2) to (B2) is from 1:10 to 1:100000 and preferably from 1:100 to 1:10000.

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Experimental Results:

Table 1 of Experimental Results

Test	RXR-VDR	VDR CTF	OCN	Mouse
Cmpd. 1	(SaOS-2	(Caco-2 cells) ³	Promoter 4	Hypercal ⁵
	cells) ²	EC ₅₀ (nM)	EC ₅₀ (nM)	μg/Kg/d
	EC ₅₀ (nM)			
İ				;
Ex. 1	68.6	471	0.96	3000
Ex. 2	111.9/9.4	397	1.2/1.7	300
Ex. 3	300.7/148.9	819	16.3/19.7	1000
Ex. 4	257/127.3	974	21/27.7	73000
AA	5.02	16	5	0.06
BB	10.32	169.81	8.24	20
CC	2427.7		2680.9	
ļ				
DD	109.44		31.1	1000
EE	429.99	891.16	341.25	1000
FF	3/1	57	0.28	

Table 2 of Experimental Results

Test	Kera. Prolif.	IL-10
Cmpd. ¹	IC ₅₀ (nM)	IC ₅₀ (nM)
Ex. 1		
Ex. 2	21	24
Ex. 3	121	718

Ex. 4		477
AA	120	1.2
BB	10	28
CC		
DD	1060	
EE		
FF	103	0.5

Explanation of Table 5 and 6 column numerical superscripts:

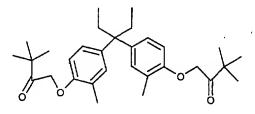
1. Test Compound numbers refer to the products of the corresponding Example Nos. that is, compounds within the scope of the invention. For example, the number "Ex. 2" refers to the compound, 3'-[4-(2-hydroxy-3,3-dimethylbutoxy) -3-methylphenyl]-3'-[5-methoxycarbonyl-4-methylthiophen-2-yl]pentane, prepared in Example 2. The control experiments are done with the double letter coded compounds identified as follows:

"AA" = 1α ,25-dihydroxyvitamin D₃

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"BB" = 3-(4-{1-Ethyl-1-[4-(2-hydroxy-3,3-dimethyl-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-propyl}-2-methyl-phenoxy)-propane-1,2-diol

"CC" = 1-(4-{1-[4-(3,3-Dimethyl-2-oxo-butoxy)-3-methyl-phenyl]-cyclohexyl}-2-methyl-phenoxy)-3,3-dimethyl-butan-2-one



"DD" = compound represented by the formula:

"EE" = compound represented by the formula:

"FF" -= calcipotriol (structural formula below):

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- 2. The RXR-VDR heterodimerization (SaOS-2 cells) test is described in the "Assay" section of the Description, infra.
- 3. The VDR CTF (Caco-2 cells) test is described in the "Assay" section of the 10 Description, infra.
 - 4. The OCN Promoter test is described in the "Assay" section of the Description, infra.
 - 5. The Mouse Hypercalcemia test is described in the "Assay" section of the Description, infra.
- 15 6. The keratinocyte proliferation assay is described in the "Assay" section of the Description, infra.
 - 7. The IL-10 induction assay is described in the "Assay" section of the Description, infra.

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Assay Methods

Use of the Assay Methods:

The evaluation of the novel compounds of the invention for osteoporosis and other related diseases is done using a plurality of test results. The use of multiple assays is necessary since the combined properties of (i) high activity for the vitamin D receptor, and (ii) prevention of hypercalcemia must be achieved to have utility for the methods of treating diseases, which are also, aspects of this invention. Some of the tests described

-101-

below are believed related to other tests and measure related properties of compounds. Consequently, a compound may be considered to have utility in the practice of the invention if is meets most, if not all, of the acceptance criteria for the above described tests.

The evaluation of the novel compounds of the invention for psoriasis is done using the Keratinocyte Proliferation Assay in combination with other assays that measure inhibition of IL-2 production and stimulation of IL-10 production in peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs).

Brief Description, Utility and Acceptance Criteria for the Assay Methods:

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1. The RXR-VDR heterodimerAssay:

This assay provides the VDR activity of a test compound. It is desirable to have low EC50 values for a compound in this assay. The lower the EC50 value, the more active the compound will be as a VDR agonist. Desired assay results are EC50 values less than or equal to 600 nM. Preferred assay results are less than 250 nM, and most preferably less than 150 nM.

2. The Caco-2 cell Co-transfection Assay:

The Caco-2 cell assay is an indicator for the undesirable condition of hypercalcemia. This co-transfection assay is a surrogate assay for in vivo calcemic activity of VDR ligands. It is desirable to have high EC50 values for a test compound in this assay. The higher the EC50 values for a compound the less calcemic it will be in vivo. Desired assay results are EC50 greater than or equal to 300 nM. Preferred assay results are greater than 1000 nM.

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3. The OCN (osteocalcin) Promoter Assay

The OCN Promoter Assay is an indicator and marker for osteoporosis.

Desired assay results are EC50 less than or equal to 325 nM. Preferred assay results are less than 50 nM.

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4. The Mouse Hypercalcemia Assay

-102-

The Mouse Hypercalcemia Assay is a six day hypercalcemia test for toxicity and selectivity. Acceptable test results are levels greater than 300 µg/kg/day.

Preferred assay results are levels greater than 1000 µg/kg/day.

5. The Keratinocyte Proliferation Assay

This Assay is indicative for the treatment of psoriasis. An acceptable test result is IC50 value of less than or equal to 300 nM. Preferred assay results are IC50 values of less than 100 nM.

10 6. The IL-10 induction Assay

This is an in vitro efficacy assay for psoriasis, abscess and adhesion. Psoriasis involves both keratinocytes and immune cells. IL-10 is a unique cytokine because it is anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive. This assay tells us whether a VDRM is able to function as an agonist in PBMCs (primary blood mononuclear cells) or not. A lower

EC50 value is desirable in this assay since a compound with a lower EC50 value will be a better agonist in PBMCs. An acceptable test result is an EC50 value of less than 200 nM. Preferred assay results are EC50 values of less than 100 nM.

7. Other Compound Assay Standards

An alternative measure of the efficacy of compounds of the invention for treatment of osteoporosis is a numerical ratio calculated as follows:

Dose Threshold needed to induce hypercalcemia divided by

Dose Threshold needed for bone efficacy

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An alternative measure of the efficacy of compounds of the invention for treatment of psoriasis is a numerical ratio calculated as follows:

Dose Threshold needed to induce hypercalcemia divided by

Dose Threshold needed to induce keratinocyte proliferation

For the above ratios, Dose Thresholds are determined from dose response curve data.

-103-

8. The CaT1 (calcium transport protein 1) Assay

The CaT1 Assay is an indicator for the undesirable condition of hypercalcemia. The higher the EC50 values for a compound the less calcemic it will be in vivo. Desired assay results are EC50 greater than or equal to 500 nM. Preferred assay results are greater than 1000 nM.

Details of the Assay Methods:

(1) Materials and Method for RXR-VDR Heterodimerization Assay:

Transfection Method:

• FuGENE 6 Transfection Reagent (Roche Cat # 1 814 443)

Growth Media:

• D-MEM High Glucose (Gibco BRL Cat # 11054-020), 10% FBS, 1% antibioticantimycotic (Ab-Am)

FBS heat inactivated (Gibco BRL Cat # 10092-147)

15 Ab-Am (Gibco BRL Cat # 15240-062)

Cells:

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- Grow SaOs-2 cells in T-152 cm² culture flasks in growth media.
- Keep the density at 5-6 x 10⁵ cells/ml
- Passage cells 1:3 twice a week
- Add Trypsin EDTA (Gibco BRL Cat # 25300-020) and incubate
 - Resuspend cells in plating media and transfer into growth media.

Wash Media:

- HBSS Low Glucose Without Phenol Red (Gibco BRL Cat # 14175-095), 1% Ab-Am Plating Media:
- D-MEM Low Glucose Without Phenol Red (Gibco BRL Cat # 11054-020), 1% Ab-Am D-MEM

Stripped FBS (Hyclone Cat# SH30068.03 Lot # AHM9371)

Ab-Am

Transfection / Treatment Media:

30 • D-MEM Low Glucose Without Phenol Red only

T-152 cm² culture flask:

• Use Corning Coastar T-152 cm² culture flask (Cat # 430825) to grow the cells

-104-

Flat well Plates:

- Use well plate to plate cells
- Use Deep well plate sterile to make up treatment media.
- 5 Luciferase Assay Reagent:
 - Use Steady-Glo Luciferase Reagent from Promega (Cat # E2550) Consists of:
 - a. E2533 Assay Substrate, lyopholized product and
 - b. E2543 Assay Buffer.
 - Thaw at room temperature
- 10 Store

DAY 1: Cell Plating:

Cell Harvesting

Aspirate media from culture flask, rinse cells with HBSS and aspirate.

Add trypsin and incubate.

When cells appear detached, resuspend cells in growth media.

Transfer into a new flask with fresh growth media for passaging the cells.

Plate well plates and two extra plates

A. Cell Count

Mix the cell suspension using pipette

20 Use Hematocytometer to count the cells

Load cell suspension onto the hemocytometer chamber

Count cells.

Plate seeding:

Use plating media 10 % Stripped FBS in D-MEM Low Glucose, Without Phenol Red, 1%

25 Ab-Am

Plate 14 plates @ 165 µl / well.

In sterile flask add cell suspension

to plating media.

Mix.

30 Add cells / well.

Place the cells in the incubator.

Cells should be about 75 % confluent prior to transfection.

-105-

Step 1: DNA and Media

Add plain DMEM media to tubes for mixing the DNA

Add the Reporter gene pFR-LUC

5 Add the Gal4-RXR-DEF and VP16-VDR-LBD

Step 2: FuGENE and Media

Prepare plain DMEM media in a ubes for mixing FuGENE

Add FuGENE 6 Transfection Reagent

10 Incubate

Step 3: FuGENE, DNA and Media Complex

Add FuGENE Media complex from step 2 to DNA Media complex from step1

Incubate

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Step 4: FuGENE , DNA and Media Complex to-well plate Add FuGENE-DNA-Media complex from step 3 to each plate

Incubate.

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Day 3: Dosing

Treatment preparation

Allow for transfection time

Make a stock solution of the compounds in DMSO

Vortex until all the compounds has been dissolved.

Further dilute in D-MEM (Low Glucose – With out Phenol Red)

Add compounds in quadruplicate to give final volume

Incubate.

Day 4: Luciferase Assay

Read the plates after drug treatment

30 Remove part of media from all the wells and leave remainder

Add Steady-Glo Luciferase Reagent mixture / wells

Incubate

-106-

Count each well using a Luminescence counter, Top Count NXT by Packard Set a delay between plates to reduce the background.

(2) Materials and Method for The Caco-2 Cell Assay:

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Caco-2 cells, grown in phenol red free, DMEM (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) containing 10 % charcoal-stripped FCS (Hyclone, Logan, UT), were transfected with Fugene 6 reagent (Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, IN). Cells (5000/well) were plated 18 h before transfection in a 96 well plate. The Cells were transfected with Gal4-responsive reporter pFRLuc (150 ng, Stratagene, La Jolla CA) and the receptor expression vector pGal4-VDR-LBD (10 ng), along with Fugene 6 reagent (0.2 µl/well). The DNA-Fugene complex was formed by incubating the mixture for 30 min at room temperature. The cells were transfected in triplicate for 5 h, and treated with various concentrations of VDR ligands (form 0.01 nM to 10,000 nM concentration range) 18h post-transfection. The luciferase activity was quantified using Steady-Glo reagent kit (Promega, Madison, WI) as per manufacturer's specifications.

(3) Materials and Method for The OCN Promoter Assay:

The activation of osteocalcin by VDR ligands was evaluated in a rat 20 osteoblast-like cell line RG-15 (ROS 17/2.8) stably expressing rat osteocalcin promoter fused with luciferase reporter gene. The stable cell lines were established as reported before (Activation of Osteocalcin Transcription involves interaction of protein kinase A- and Protein kinase C-dependent pathways. 25 Boguslawski, G., Hale, L. V., Yu, X.-P., Miles, R. R., Onyia, J. E., Santerre R. F., Chandrasekhar, S. J Biol. Chem. 275, 999-1006, 2000). Confluent RG-15 cells maintained in DMEM/F-12 medium (3:1) containing 5% FBS, 300 □g/ml G418 and at 37°C under 5% CO₂/95% air atmosphere were trypsinized (0.25%) trypsin) and plated into white opaque 96-well cell culture plates (25000 cells/well). After 24 hr, cells (in DMEM/F-12 medium + 2% FBS) were treated 30 with various concentrations of compounds, dissolved in DMSO. The final DMSO concentration remained at 0.01% (v/v). After 48 hr treatment, the

-107-

medium was removed, cells were lysed with 50 \square 1 of lysis buffer (From Luciferase reporter assay system, Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, IN) and assayed for luciferase activity using the Luciferase Reporter Gene Assay kit from Boehringer Mannheim as per manufacturer's specifications.

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(4) Materials and Method for The Mouse Hypercalcemia Assay:

Weanling, virus -antibody-free, five to six weeks old female DBF mice (Harlan, Indianapolis, IN) are used for all the studies. Animals are allowed to acclimate to local vivarium conditions for 2 days. Mice are maintained on a 12 hr light/dark cycle at 22°C with ad lib access to food (TD 5001 with 1.2% Ca and 0.9%P, Teklad, Madison, WI) and water. The animals then are divided into groups with 4-5 mice per group. Different doses of test compounds prepared in 10% Ethanol and 90% sesame oil are administered to mice orally via gavage for 6 days. 1α-25(OH)₂D₃ 0.5μg/kg/d was also given to one group of mice as the positive control. Serum ionized calcium is evaluated at 6 hours after the last dosing under isoflurane anesthesia by Ciba-Corning Ca++/PH Analyzer, (Model 634, Chiron Diagnostics Corp., East Walpole, MA). Raw data of group differences is assessed by analysis of variance (ANOVA) using Fisher's protected least significant difference (PLSD) where the significance level was P< 0.05.

20 (5) The Keratinocyte Proliferation Assay:

KERtr cells (Human skin keratinocyte transformed with a retrovirus vector, obtained from ATCC) were plated in 96-well flat-bottomed plates (3000 cells/well) in 100 □l keratinocyte serum free medium supplemented with bovine pituitary extract in the absence of EGF (Life Technologies, Rockville, MD) and incubated at 37°C for two days. The cells were treated with various concentrations of VDR ligands (ten-fold serial dilution from 10,000 nM to 0.1 nM in triplicate), dissolved in 100 □l keratinocyte serum free medium supplemented with bovine pituitary extract in the absence of EGF and incubated at 37°C for 72hr. BrdU (5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine) incorporation was analyzed as a measure of DNA replication (Cell proliferation ELISA kit, Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, IN) and absorbance was measured at 405 nm. Potency values (IC₅₀) values were determined as the concentration (nM) of compound that elicited a half-maximal response.

-108-

(6) Materials and Method for human IL-10 Induction Assay:

Isolation of peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs):

- A. Collect 50 ml of human blood and dilute with media, RPMI-1640.
- 5 B. Prepare sterile tubes with ficol.
 - C. Add diluted blood to tubes.
 - D. Centrifuge.
 - E. Discard the top layer and collect the cells from middle layer.
 - F. Divide all cells into four tubes and add media.
- 10 G. Centrifuge.
 - H. Aspirate off media and resuspend.
 - I. Collect all cells
 - J. Centrifuge. at 1200 rpm for 10 minutes.
 - K. Resuspend in RPMI-1640 with 2% FBS and count cells
- 15 Stimulation of PBMC:
 - L. Prepare TPA in DMSO.
 - M. Dissolve PHA in water.
 - N. Plate TPA/PHA treated PBMCs in well plates.
 - O. Incubate.
- 20 Treatment:
 - P. Prepare all compound dilutions in plain RPMI- 1640 media.
 - Q. Add diluted compound.
 - R. Incubate.

Sample Collection and assay:

- S. Remove all the cells by centrifugation and assay the supernatant for IL-10 by immunoassay.
 - 1) T. Perform IL-10 assay using anti-human IL-10 antibody coated beads, as described by the manufacturer (Linco Research Inc., St. Charles, MO).

30 (8) Materials and Methods for CaT-1 Assay:

Human colon carcinoma, Caco-2 cells, maintained in DMEM (high glucose with 25 mM Hepes buffer; Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) supplemented with 10 % fetal bovine

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-109-

serum (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA), are plated at 5500 cell per well in a 96-well plate in a total volume of 100 µl/well. The cells are kept in the 96-well plate for 6 days to differentiate them to small intestinal cells that express the calcium transporter, CaT1. On day 3 after plating, old media is removed and replaced with fresh media (150 µl/well). On day 6 the old media is removed and the cells are kept in treatment media (180 µl/well) that contained 10 % charcoal stripped fetal bovine serum (Hyclone, Logan, UT) in DMEM (low glucose, without phenol red; Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). The cells are treated with various concentrations of VDR ligands (from 0.01 nM to 10,000 nM concentration range) prepared in treatment media (20 µl/well). Twenty hours posttreatment, total RNA is prepared by RNeasy 96 method as described by the manufacturer (Qiagen, Valencia, CA). The RNA is reverse transcribed and amplified for human CaT1 and GAPDH (control) messages by quantitative RT-PCR using ABI PRISM 7900HT Sequence Detection System according to manufacturer's instructions (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA). Optimized primer pairs and probes for human CaT1 and GAPDH genes are obtained commercially (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA). Each 20 µl quantitative RT-PCR reaction in a 384-well Taqman PCR plate consists of forward and reverse primers (900 nM), Taqman probe (200 nM), total RNA (4 ul form each well of the 96-well culture plate) and 10 µl of Tagman Universal PCR Master Mix (Roche Diagnostics, Indianapolis, IN). Reactions are incubated at 48°C for 30 minutes, followed by 10 minutes at 95°C and subjected to 40 cycles of PCR (95°C for 15 seconds followed by 60°C for 1 minute). GAPDH is used as an internal control and its primer and probe set are obtained commercially (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA).

WE CLAIM:

5 1. A compound represented by formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a prodrug derivative thereof:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} R & R' & R_{PH} & (I) \\ \hline R_{BOH} & R_1 & R_2 & R_C \end{array}$$

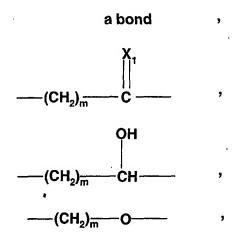
wherein;

R and R' are independently C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₁-C₅ fluoroalkyl, or together R and R'
form a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated carbocyclic ring having from
3 to 8 carbon atoms;

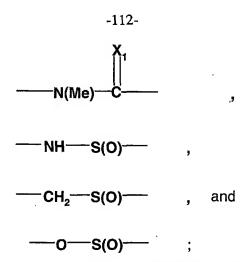
R_{PH} is hydrogen or methyl;

R1 and R2 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, C_1 - C_5 alkyl, C_1 - C_5 fluoroalkyl, -O- C_1 - C_5 alkyl, -S- C_1 - C_5 alkyl, -O- C_1 - C_5 fluoroalkyl, -CN, -NO₂, acetyl, -S- C_1 - C_5 fluoroalkyl, C_2 - C_5 alkenyl, C_3 - C_5 cycloalkyl, and C_3 - C_5 cycloalkenyl;

 L_1 and L_2 and L_3 are divalent linking groups independently selected from the group consisting of



NH.



where m is 0, 1 or 2, X_1 is oxygen or sulfur, and each R40 is independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_5 alkyl, or C_1 - C_5 fluoroalkyl;

R_{BOH} is

	KBOH 12	
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
10		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,
15		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
		1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl,
20		1-hydroxycycyclopentenyl,
		1-hydroxycyclohexenyl,
		1-hydroxycycloheptenyl,
		1-hydroxycyclooctenyl,
		1-hydroxycyclopropyl,
25		1-hydroxycyclobutyl,
		1-hydroxycyclopentyl,

-113-

1-hydroxycyclohexyl, 1-hydroxycycloheptyl, or

1-hydroxycyclooctyl;

provided, however, that when

	provided, nowever, that whe	41.
5	R _{BOH} is	·
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
10	,	3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl,
		3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,
	•	3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl,
15		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,
		3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl, or
		1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl;
	then L ₁ and L ₂ combi	ne as a bond; and
20	R _C is	
	•	-CO ₂ H,
		-CO ₂ Me,
		-CO ₂ Et,
		-C(O)CH ₂ S(O)Me,
25		-C(O)CH ₂ S(O)Et,
		$-C(O)CH_2S(O)_2Me,$
		-C(O)CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
		-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
		-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Et,
30		-C(O)CH2CH2S(O)2Me,
30		-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me, -C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
30		

-114-

	-C(O)C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)C(O)NH_2$
	-C(O)C(O)NHMe,
	-C(O)C(O)NMe ₂ ,
5	$-C(O)NH_2$, $C(O)NMe_2$,
	-C(O)NHS(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)-NH-5-tetrazolyl,
	-C(O)NMe-5-tetrazolyl,
10	-C(O)NHS(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHS(O)Et,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ Et,
	-C(O)NHS(O)iPr,
15	-C(O)NHSO2iPr,
	-C(O)NHS(O)nPr,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ nPr,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ S(O)Et,
20	-C(O)NHCH ₂ SO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)NHCH2SO2Et,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHCH2CH2S(O)Et,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₂ Me,
25	-C(O)NHCH2CH2SO2Et,
	-C(O)NH ₂ ,
	-C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	$-C(O)NH-CH_2-C(O)OH$,
	-C(O)NH-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
30	-C(O)NH-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,

-115-

	-C(O)NH-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NH-C(Me)_2-C(O)OH$,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
5	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(cyclopropyl-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
10	-C(O)NMe-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
•	-C(O)NMe-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
15	-C(O)NMe-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-CH ₂ -CO ₂ H,
20	-CH ₂ -5-tetrazolyl,
	-CH ₂ CO ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CO ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ NHS(O)Me,
	-CH ₂ NHS(O)Et,
25	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ NHS(O)iPr,
,	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ iPr,
	-CH ₂ NHS(O)nPr,
30	-CH ₂ NHSO ₂ nPr,
	-CH ₂ NHCH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₂ CH ₃ ,
	-CH ₂ NH(CH ₂ CO ₂ H),

	-116-
	-CH ₂ N(C(O)Me)(CH ₂ CO ₂ H),
	-CH ₂ -N-pyrrolidin-2-one,
	-CH ₂ -(1-methylpyrrolidin-2-one-3-yl),
	-CH ₂ S(O)Me,
5	-CH ₂ S(O)Et,
	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ S(O)iPr,
	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ iPr,
10	-CH ₂ S(O)nPr,
	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ nPr,
·	-CH ₂ CO ₂ H, CH ₂ C(O)NH ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ C(O)NHMe,
15	-CH ₂ C(O)-N-pyrrolidine,
	-CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-CH(OH) CO ₂ H,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NH ₂ ,
20	-CH(OH)C(O)NHMe,
,	-CH(OH)C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NEt ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ H,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ Me,
25	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NH ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NHMe,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ -5-tetrazolyl,
30	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,

20

-117-

-CH₂CH₂S(O) Et, -CH₂CH₂S(O)iPr, -CH₂CH₂S(O)₂iPr, -CH₂CH₂S(O)nPr, -CH₂CH₂S(O)₂nPr, 5 $-CH_2CH_2S(O)NH_2$ -CH₂CH₂S(O)NHMe, -CH₂CH₂S(O)NMe₂, $-CH_2CH_2S(O)_2NH_2,\\$ -CH₂CH₂S(O)₂NHMe, 10 $-CH_2CH_2S(O)_2NMe_2$, -CH₂CH₂CH₂S(O)Me, -CH₂CH₂CH₂S(O)Et, - $CH_2CH_2CH_2S(O)_2Me$, -CH₂CH₂CH₂S(O)₂Et, 15 -CH(Me)CH₂C(O)OH,

-SO₃H,

-5-tetrazolyl,

-C(Me)₂CH₂C(O)OH,

-118-

-119-

or

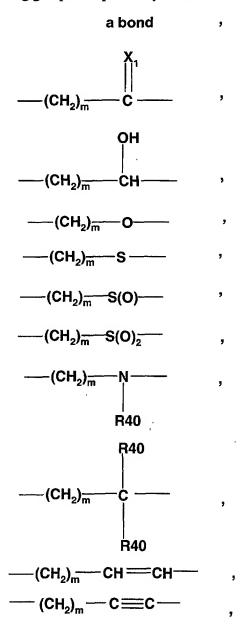
- -1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-one-5-yl,
- -imidazolidine-2,4-dione-5-yl,
- -1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione-5-methylidene,
- -isoxazol-3-ol-yl, or
- -1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-thione-5-yl.

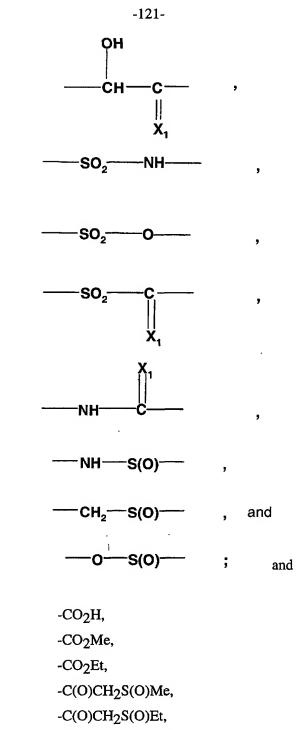
-120-

2. A compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester prodrug derivative thereof wherein

R_{PH} is hydrogen;

L₃ are divalent linking groups independently selected from the group consisting of





10

5

R_C is

-C(O)CH₂S(O)Et, -C(O)CH₂S(O)₂Me, -C(O)CH₂S(O)₂Et,

-C(O)CH₂CH₂S(O)Me,

 $-C(O)CH_2CH_2S(O)Et$,

15

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	-122-
	-C(O)CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
	-C(O)CH2CH2S(O)2Et,
	-C(O)CHMeCH ₂ CO ₂ H
_	-C(O)C(O)OH,
5	-C(O)C(O)NH ₂ ,
•	-C(O)C(O)NHMe,
	-C(O)C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-C(O)NH ₂ , C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-C(O)NHS(O)Me,
10	-C(O)NHSO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)-NH-5-tetrazolyl,
	-C(O)NMe-5-tetrazolyl,
	-C(O)NHS(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHS(O)Et,
15	-C(O)NHSO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ Et,
	-C(O)NHS(O)iPr,
	-C(O)NHSO ₂ iPr,
	-C(O)NHS(O)nPr,
20	-C(O)NHSO ₂ nPr,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ S(O)Et,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ SO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ SO ₂ Et,
25	-C(O)NHCH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-C(O)NHCH2CH2S(O)Et,
	-C(O)NHCH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₂ Me,
	-C(O)NHCH2CH2SO2Et,
	-C(O)NH ₂ ,
30	-C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-C(O)NH-CH ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,

-123-

	123
	-C(O)NH-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
5	-C(O)NH-C(Me)₂-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)₂-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
10	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(cyclopropyl-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NMe-CH_2-C(O)OH$,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
15	-C(O)NMe-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
20	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,

-124-

-CH₂-CO₂H, -CH₂-5-tetrazolyl, -CH₂ CO₂Me, -CH₂CO₂Et, -CH2NHS(O)Me, 5 -CH₂NHS(O)Et, -CH2NHSO2Me, -CH2NHSO2Et, -CH₂NHS(O)iPr, -CH2NHSO2iPr, 10 -CH2NHS(O)nPr, -CH2NHSO2nPr, -CH2NHCH2CH2SO2CH3, $-CH_2NH(CH_2CO_2H),$ -CH2N(C(O)Me)(CH2CO2H), 15 -CH₂-N-pyrrolidin-2-one, -CH₂-(1-methylpyrrolidin-2-one-3-yl), -CH₂S(O)Me, -CH₂S(O)Et, - $CH_2S(O)_2Me$, 20 $-CH_2S(O)_2Et$, -CH₂S(O)iPr, -CH₂S(O)₂iPr, -CH₂S(O)nPr, -CH₂S(O)₂nPr, 25 -CH₂CO₂H, CH₂C(O)NH₂, -CH₂C(O)NMe₂, -CH₂C(O)NHMe, -CH₂C(O)-N-pyrrolidine, - $CH_2S(O)_2Me$, 30 -CH₂S(O)Me, -CH(OH) CO₂H,

PCT/US2004/037182

-125-

	-CH(OH)C(O)NH $_2$,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NHMe,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NMe2,
	-CH(OH)C(O)NEt ₂ ,
5	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ H,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CO ₂ Et,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NH ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NHMe,
10	-CH ₂ CH ₂ C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ -5-tetrazolyl,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
15	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) Et,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)iPr,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ iPr,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)nPr,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ nPr,
20	$-CH_2CH_2S(O)NH_2$,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)NHMe,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-CH2CH2S(O)2NH2,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ NHMe,
25	-CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ NMe ₂ ,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O)Et,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Me,
	-CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂ S(O) ₂ Et,
30	
	-SO ₃ H,

-126-

-5-tetrazolyl,

- -1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-one-5-yl,
- -imidazolidine-2,4-dione-5-yl,
- -1,3-thiazolidine-2,4-dione-5-methylidene,
- -isoxazol-3-ol-yl, or
- -1,3,4-oxadiazolin-2-thione-5-yl.

3. A compound represented by formula (II) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an ester prodrug derivative thereof:

$$R_{BOH}$$
 R_{C}
 R_{C}
 R_{C}
 R_{C}
 R_{C}

wherein;

5

R and R' are independently methyl or ethyl;

R1 and R2 are independently hydrogen, halo, -CF₃, methyl, ethyl, or cyclopropyl; L₁ and L₂ are independently divalent linking groups independently selected from

where m is 0 or 1;

R_{BOH} is selected from

15 1-hydroxycycyclopentenyl,

1-hydroxycyclohexenyl,

1-hydroxycyclopentyl, or

1-hydroxycyclohexyl, and

RC is a group selected from

PCT/US2004/037182

-129-

	-CO ₂ H,
	-CO ₂ Me,
	-CO ₂ Et,
	-C(O)NH ₂ ,
5	-C(O)NMe ₂ ,
	-C(O)NH-CH ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
10	-C(O)NH-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
15	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(cyclopropyl-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NMe-CH_2-C(O)OH$,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
20	-C(O)NMe-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NMe-C(Me)_2-C(O)OH$,
25	-C(O)NMe-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(CF_3)-C(O)OH$,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
•	-C(O)NMe-5-tetrazolyl,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH, or
30	-C(O)-NH-5-tetrazolyl.

4. A compound represented by formula (III) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an ester prodrug derivative thereof:

$$R_{BOH}$$
 R_{1}
 R_{2}
 R_{1}
 R_{2}
 R_{1}
 R_{2}
 R_{3}

wherein;

R and R' are independently methyl or ethyl; 5

R1 and R2 are independently hydrogen, halo, -CF3, methyl, ethyl, or cyclopropyl;

R_{BOH} is selected from

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-methyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

3-propyl-3-hydroxypentyl,

3-propyl-3-hydroxypentenyl,

3-propyl-3-hydroxypentynyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentenyl,

3-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-methylpentynyl, or

1-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-(methylethyl)propyl;

and

RC is a group selected from

-CO₂H,

-CO₂Me,

-CO₂Et,

-C(O)NH₂,

 $-C(O)NMe_2$,

-C(O)NH-CH₂-C(O)OH,

-C(O)NH-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,

15

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-131-

•	-C(O)NH-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
5	-C(O)NH-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
10	-C(O)NH-C(Me)(cyclopropyl-C(O)OH,
•	-C(O)NMe-CH ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(Me)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(F)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(CF ₃)-C(O)OH,
15	-C(O)NMe-CH(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CH(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me) ₂ -C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-CF(Me)-C(O)OH,
	$-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(CF_3)-C(O)OH,$
20	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(OH)-C(O)OH,
	-C(O)NMe-5-tetrazolyl,
	-C(O)NMe-C(Me)(cyclopropyl)-C(O)OH, or
	-C(O)-NH-5-tetrazolyl.

5. The compound represented by formula (AA-1) to (AA-33) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof:AA-1)

AA-2)

AA-3)

AA-4)

5

AA-5)

AA-6)

AA-7)

AA-8)

5

AA-9)

AA-10)

AA-11)

AA-12)

5

AA-13)

AA-14)

AA-15)

AA-16)

5

AA-17)

AA-18)

AA-19)

AA-20)

5

AA-21)

AA-22)

AA-23)

AA-24)

5

AA-25)

-138-

AA-26)

AA-27)

AA-28)

5

AA-29)

AA-30)

AA-31)

AA-32)

5

AA-33)

PCT/US2004/037182

-140-

6. The compound represented by formula (BB-1) to (BB-33)or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof:

5 **BB-1**)

WO 2005/051893

BB-2)

BB-3)

-141-

BB-4)

BB-5)

5 BB-6)

BB-7)

BB-8)

BB-9)

BB-10)

BB-11)

5

BB-12)

BB-13)

BB-14)

BB-15)

5

BB-16)

-144-

BB-17)

BB-18)

BB-19)

5

BB-20)

BB-21)

BB-22)

BB-23)

5

BB-24)

BB-25)

5 BB-26)

BB-27)

BB-28)

BB-29)

BB-30)

BB-31)

5

BB-32)

-148-

BB-33)

7. The compound represented by formula (CC-1) to (CC-44) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof:

CC-1)

CC-2)

10

5

-149-

CC-3)

CC-4)

5 CC-5)

CC-6)

CC-7)

-150-

CC-8)

CC-9)

CC-10)

5

CC-11)

CC-12)

CC-13)

CC-14)

5

CC-15)

CC-16)

5

CC-18)

CC-20)

5 CC-21)

CC-22)

CC-23)

-154-

CC-24)

CC-25)

CC-26)

5

CC-27)

CC-28)

CC-29)

CC-30)

5

CC-31)

CC-32)

CC-33)

CC-34)

5

CC-35)

CC-36)

CC-37)

5

CC-38)

CC-39)

CC-40)

CC-41)

CC-42)

5

CC-43)

5 '

8. The compound represented by the formula:

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof.

10

9. The compound represented by the formula:

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug derivative thereof.

PCT/US2004/037182

WO 2005/051893 PCT/US2

-160-

10.	The prodrug deri	vative of the compound of o	claim 1 to 9 whe	rein the prodrug
is a methyl	ester; ethyl ester;	N,N-diethylglycolamido es	ster; or morpholi	nylethyl ester.

- 11. The salt derivative of the compound of claim 1 to 9 wherein the salt is sodium 5 or potassium.
 - 12. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising the compound of claim 1 to 9 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
- 10 13. A formulation for treating osteoporosis comprising:

Ingredient (A1): the vitamin D receptor modulator of claim 1, represented by formula (I);

Ingredient (B1):

one or more co-agents selected from the group consisting of:

a. estrogens,

b. androgens,

c. calcium supplements,

d. vitamin D metabolites,

e. thiazide diuretics,

f. calcitonin,

g. bisphosphonates,

h. SERMS, and

i. fluorides; and

Ingredient (C1): optionally, a carrier or diluent.

25

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- 14. The formulation of claim 13 wherein the weight ratio of (A1) to (B1) is from 10:1 to 1:1000.
 - 15. A formulation for treating osteoporosis comprising:

Ingredient (A2): the vitamin D receptor modulator of claim 1 represented by formula (I);

Ingredient (B2):

-161-

one or more co-agents that are conventional for treatment osteoporosis selected from the group consisting of:

- a. topical glucocorticoids,
- b. salicylic acid,
- c. crude coal tar; and

Ingredient (C2): optionally, a carrier or diluent.

5

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15

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- 16. The formulation of claim 15 wherein the weight ratio of (A2) to (B2) is from 1:10 to 1:100000.
- 17. A method of treating a mammal to prevent or alleviate the pathological effects of Acne, Actinic keratosis, Alopecia, Alzheimer's disease, Bone maintenance in zero gravity, Bone fracture healing, Breast cancer, Chemoprovention of Cancer, Crohn's disease, Colon cancer, Type I diabetes, Host-graft rejection, Hypercalcemia, Type II diabetes, Leukemia, Multiple sclerosis, Myelodysplastic syndrome, Insufficient sebum secretion, Osteomalacia, Osteoporosis, Insufficient dermal firmness, Insufficient dermal hydration, Psoriatic arthritis, Prostate cancer, Psoriasis, Renal osteodystrophy, Rheumatoid arthritis, Scleroderma, Skin cancer, Systemic lupus erythematosus, Skin cell protection from, Mustard vesicants, Ulcerative colitis, Vitiligo, or Wrinkles; wherein the method comprises administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of at least one compound of claim 1 or 9.
 - 18. The method of claim 17 for the treatment of psoriasis.
 - 19. The method of claim 17 for the treatment of osteoporosis.
 - 20. A method of claim 17 for treating a mammal to prevent or alleviate skin cell protection from Mustard vesicants.
- 21. A method of of treating a mammal to prevent or alleviate the pathological effects of Benign prostatic hyperplasia or bladder cancer wherein the method comprises administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of at least one compound of claim 1 or

-162-

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22. A method of treating or preventing disease states mediated by the Vitamin D receptor, wherein a mammal in need thereof is administered a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound of Claim 1 to 9.

- 23. A compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 9 for use in treating a mammal to prevent or alleviate the pathological effects of Acne, Actinic keratosis, Alopecia, Alzheimer's disease, Bone maintenance in zero gravity,
- Bone fracture healing, Breast cancer, Chemoprovention of Cancer, Crohn's disease,
 Colon cancer, Type I diabetes, Host-graft rejection, Hypercalcemia, Type II diabetes,
 Leukemia, Multiple sclerosis, Myelodysplastic syndrome, Insufficient sebum secretion,
 Osteomalacia, Osteoporosis, Insufficient dermal firmness, Insufficient dermal hydration,
 Psoriatic arthritis, Prostate cancer, Psoriasis, Renal osteodystrophy, Rheumatoid arthritis,
 Scleroderma, Skin cancer, Systemic lupus erythematosus, Skin cell protection from ,
 Mustard vesicants, Ulcerative colitis, Vitiligo, or Wrinkles.
 - 24. A compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 9 for use in treating or preventing disease states mediated by the Vitamin D receptor.

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- 25. A compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 9 for use in treating a mammal to prevent or alleviate the pathological effects of Benign prostatic hyperplasia or bladder cancer.
- 26. A compound as claimed in Claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to any of the Examples.
 - 27. A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to any of the Examples.

-163-

28. The use of a compound as claimed in claim 1 substantially as herein described with reference to any of the Assays and Tables for mediating the Vitamin D. receptor.

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ELI LILLY AND COMPANY [US/US]; Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, IN 46285 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BUNEL, Emilio, Enrique [CL/US]; 3277 Sunset Hills Boulevard, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 (US). GAJEWSKI, Robert, Peter [US/US], 1501 Friendship Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46217 (US). JONES, Charles, David [US/US]: 223 East Brunswick Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46227 (US). LU, Jianliang [CN/US], 11921 Castlestone Drive, Fishers, IN 46038 (US). NAGPAL, Sunil [US/US]; 5258 Comanche Trail, Carmel, IN 46033 (US). MA, Tianwei [CN/US]; 5676 Sapphire Drive, Carmel, IN 46033 (US). YEE, Ying, Kwong [US/US]; 5127 Briarstone Trace, Carmel, IN 46033 (US).
- (74) Agents: BOUDREAUX, William, R. et al., ELI LILLY AND COMPANY, P. O. Box 6288, Indianapolis, IN 46206-6288 (US).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,

KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX. MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4 17(11)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, F1, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

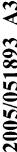
Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 14 July 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: VITAMIN D RECEPTOR MODULATORS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel, non-secosteroidal, hydroxyl substituted, carbon-linked diaryl compounds with vitamin D receptor (VDR) modulating activity that are less hypercalcemic than $1\alpha,25$ dihydroxy vitamin D3. These compounds are useful for treating bone disease and psoriasis.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intel Conal Application No PCT/US2004/037182

A. CLASSI IPC 7	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C07C235/42 C07C235/84 C07C63/0 C07D257/04 A61K31/18 A61K31/2		CO7D257/06 A61P19/10	
According to	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification	ation and IPC		
	SEARCHED			
Minimum do IPC 7	ocumentation searched (classification system followed by classification CO7C CO7D A61K A61P	on symbols)	ï	
Documental	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s	such documents are included in t	he fields searched	
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data ba	se and, where practical, search	terms used)	
EPO-In	ternal, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data, PAG			
C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rel	evant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
Α	US 6 218 430 B1 (ALLEGRETTO ELIZA AL) 17 April 2001 (2001-04-17) cited in the application the whole document	ABETH A ET	1-28	
P,X	WO 2004/063345 A (ELI LILLY AND (NAGPAL, SUNIL; YEE, YING, KWONG) 29 July 2004 (2004-07-29) the whole document	1-28		
P,X	WO 2004/048309 A (ELI LILLY AND (BUNEL, EMILIO, ENRIQUE; GAJEWSKI, PETER) 10 June 2004 (2004-06-10) the whole document	1-28		
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Furt	her documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	χ Patent family members	are listed in annex.	
° Special ca	ategories of cited documents:	*T* later document published aff	ler the international filing date	
consid	ent defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the International		onflict with the application but nciple or theory underlying the	
which citatio	nate ant which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another in or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or	involve an inventive step w "Y" document of particular relev cannot be considered to in document is combined with	volve an inventive step when the none or more other such docu-	
other:	means ent published prior to the international filling date but han the priority date claimed	ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent family		
Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of malling of the intern	ational search report	
1	7 May 2005	25/05/2005		
Name and	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk	Authorized officer		
1	Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fay: (431-70) 340-3016	Slootweg, A		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Box II	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. χ	Claims Nos.: 17-22, 26-28 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
	Although claims 17-22 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of-the compound/composition.
2. X	Claims Nos.: 26-28 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
	see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
з. 🗌	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This Inte	emational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
	· -
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
	-
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
	· ————————————————————————————————————
	-
Remark	on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 17-22, 26-28

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy.

Although claims 17-22 and 28 are directed towards a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compounds/composition.

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 26-28

Claims 26-28 contain no technical features but rather refer in a general fashion to the description, the claims are therefore, considered to lack clarity.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interponal Application No PCT/US2004/037182

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